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DAILY RECORD

OFFICE OF CHIEF - BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL AND  
INDUSTRIAL CHEMISTRY

DECEMBER, 1942 - MARCH, 1944 (INCLUSIVE)

DR. W. W. SKINNER, CHIEF OF BUREAU



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December  
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Division Chiefs Conference at 11 A. M.

Dr. Skinner stressed the importance of an orderly schedule.

Conferences with staff members regarding the regular work to be held on Monday afternoons. Mrs. Jacobs to set up a program for Monday afternoons and will not make other appointments unless absolutely necessary. (This does not mean that conferences cannot be arranged for other times during the week for special cases that may come up.)

Necessity for minimum of interruption.

Will see outsiders by appointment only. Casual visitors to be taken care of otherwise, if possible.

Will sign mail at 2:30 each afternoon only. Papers for signature not in then will not be signed that day. No appointments for this hour will be made.

Dr. H. Stevens is to help with reviewing of reports and those things which have to be boiled down before coming to the Chief of Bureau.

Staff meetings. Suggest to last about 45 minutes.

Someone to be asked in advance to be prepared to make a statement about a certain piece of work, contacts, or whatever the individual may decide is the most important item to be reported upon.

Frequency of meetings and what form to take. Can be made very profitable if not too detailed. Every man in a position of leadership should know a little something about what other units are doing. All should be informed about what is going on.

When shall meetings be held? Questions discussed and leaders asked to send note to the Chief giving their views. These will be considered and a final decision reached.

The Put-Up System. Means that every person with responsibility will not put up anything to his superior officer for final decision that he can decide for himself.

Mr. Paine gave a brief talk on the production of alcohol from sorghum.



Thursday, December 10, 1942

237232

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Mr. Cardon contacted Dr. Skinner by telephone regarding the compilation of data on comparative costs of the manufacture of alcohol from wood wastes by the Scholler process, and on the production of alcohol from molasses, starch, and other available agricultural materials. The cost of the utilization of wood for the production of alcohol is to be reported on by the Forest Service and this Bureau is asked to furnish the data on molasses, sugar, sorghum sirup, cereals and other products. This matter was referred to Mr. Senseman who, in turn, suggested that Mr. Herrivk be called and asked for the data on cereal products; Mr. Paine to be asked for the data on sugars and sorghum sirup. All of this material is to be ready for report to Mr. Cardon on December 18. It was suggested that P.B. Jacobs be present at the conference. (material ref. sent to Mr. Cardon 12/18.

Long Distance phone call with Mr. H.T.Herrick re matter of getting together information concerning alcohol production from cereals, mollasses and other carbohydrates in response to a memo from Mr. Cardon; this information and report to be available for conference in Cardon's office December 18. It was agreed that Mr. Jacobs of the NRRL would prepare this report and be in Washington for the conference. ✓

Long distance phone call with Dr. P.A.Wells re possibility of bringing a technical analyst considered for the ERRL to take Dr. Monvid's place during his absence on War duty. To be discussed with Dr. Wells on Monday, December 14, in Washington. ✓

Long distance phone call with Dr. T.L. Swenson re transfer of Dr. G. A. Ballou to work with Dr. Luck of Stanford University for blood plasma studies. Dr. Swenson stated it was his understanding that Dr. Ballou would probably resign to accept the position with Dr. Luck as this would permit us to adjust our program to better advantage. (See Dr. Skinner's ltr to Dr. Richards of the Comm. on Medical Research of this date.) ✓

Long distance phone call with Mr. Lynch re tire cord program. It was agreed that Cheatham would leave for New Orleans as soon as possible. Lynch notified that arrangements had been made to ship all samples of cotton. (Later Cheatham talked with Lynch and arrangements were made to have Brown stop off in N. C. to arrange for procuring a supply of cotton cord. Lee from N.O. was to go to Thomasville, Ga. for the same purpose) Cheatham plans to stop off at Macon to see the Bibb Co. Arrangements also made to increase size of samples to 150# instead of original 50#. ✓



Saturday, December 12

Dr. Skinner reiterated to Dr. Richards of the Committee on Medical Research that Dr. Swenson has advised that although no objection will be offered to the release of Dr. Ballou for the blood plasma work with Dr. Luck, it is desired that Dr. Ballou resign in order to facilitate the work upon which he has been engaged at the WRRL. (Ltr to Dr. Richards re this issued on December 11) *"Dr Ballou has resigned 1/18/43 - TLS"*

Telegram received from Dr. Auchter at Salinas requesting that Mr. Cheatham leave for New Orleans at once in re tire cord experiments. Dr. A. advised by wire that Cheatham would leave for N.O. Monday night (Dec. 14) and that cotton sample had been shipped. *(Mr Cheatham left, as requested)*

Monday, December 14, 1942

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Conferences with P.A. Wells, P. H. Groggins and F.L. Teuton (no report)

Conference with E.A. Gastrock (SRRL). General discussion on the status of the work on rubber extraction from goldenrod. Gastrock showed samples, one containing 50% zinc oxide. Samples of the rubber had a stretch of 700% and tensile strength of 2100#. Gastrock stated that if multiplying the tensile strength by the stretch and dividing by 100 leaves a quotient greater than 500, then the sample upon which these values were obtained is of interest as a possible rubber.

### Reports Issued

Cottonseed, Soybean and Peanut Meals -to H.W. Marston

Recent Contacts of the Ind. Contaminants & Weed Eradication Section With Personnel of Armed Forces (Noted by Dr. Skinner and referred to Mr. Speh)

Western Hemlock - to C.F. Speh for review and conf. with Dr. Skinner

Sando reply to E.M. Chace re color program under dehydration noted by Dr. Skinner and copy placed in file of office of Chief.

Recommendation for deferment of G.N. Pulley sent to President through Dr. Auchter's office. (Deferment granted)



Tuesday, December 15, 1942

6

Discussed with Speh and Stevens the desirability of setting up an "absent from staff" register.

*(then up at Directors' conference - Jan, 12)*

Dr. Parsons, Sec'y of ACS, called regarding deferment for Vern F. Kaufman, Industrial Analyst at the WRRL. A letter to the President regarding this case was immediately prepared and taken over personally to Mr. Schoenhals office late in the afternoon by Mr. Jack. Dr. Parsons stated that in the matter of deferments, less cooperation is being secured from this Department than from any other Government agency.

*Ltr dropped because case had no sufficient merit.*

Dr. Skinner arranged with Dr. Wells to have a conference on Monday, December 21, with him and Mr. Speh regarding the Western Hemlock matter.

*(postponed until arrival of Stevenson)*

Chas. R. Robertson, N. D. called in regard to a request from the Industrial Commission of N. D. for a test fermentation run on N.D. <sup>hard</sup> wheat to be made at the Florida Lab. The Commission states they have not received a favorably reply to their formal request to Mr. Herrick, who has told them their request will be submitted to the Chief of BACE for final decision. Dr. Skinner told Mr. Robertson he expected to contact Mr. Herrick by phone today and at that time would take the matter up with him. - This was done later by Mr. Speh and a reply to the Industrial Commission's request was prepared. (See copy of ltr in files of Bureau)

*Further rep. in this regard received from Cong. Lusk & Burdick & Senator Long. Speh & Stevens handling - 1/14/43*

Wednesday, December 16, 1942

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Discussed with Speh and Stevens memo of Speh to Auchter of October 17, re transfer of funds to cover move to Beltsville. As no reply has been received to date, Dr. S. instructed that a follow-up memo be sent at once to Dr. Auchter. ✓

Mr. Ferris of the U. S. Sugar Corp. called in the afternoon to submit copies of agreements on sweetpotato cooperative work which he claimed were in the form advocated by the Department and which were acceptable to the U.S. Sugar Corp. with a few "minor" changes. These copies were left with Dr. Skinner who referred them to Mr. Speh for immediate review and advice. - *Contracts sent to Secretary 1/11/43 & Mr. Ferris notified by telephone.* ✓  
The Kaufman deferment case was again considered through a telephone conversation between Dr. Skinner and Mr. Schoenhals. Mr. Schoenhals stated he would submit this matter to Mr. Cardon early Thursday morning and advise Dr. Skinner promptly as to what decision may be reached as regards submitting this case, with the approval of the Secretary of Agr., to the President. From a Dept. and Bureau standpoint, this case does not appear to have sufficient merit to present to the President for consideration. Dr. Skinner later advised Dr. Parsons by phone of the contemplated action here. - Dr. Parsons has succeeded in obtaining a two weeks postponement of the date of Mr. Kaufman's induction into the Army, which was set as December 17. ✓

*See next page*



Wednesday, December 16, 1942

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C. F. Speh

Mr. Buckles, Secretary to Congressman John H. Tolan of California, left some correspondence regarding the request of Mr. Henry G. Hardy of San Francisco that the Western Regional Research Laboratory evaluate the "Sogao" system of refrigeration. I explained that the Bureau was not permitted to make investigations for private concerns. However, I told him I would go through the correspondence and a decision would be reached in a day or so.

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Dr. Brothers of the Rubber Section of the Civilian Supply Section of the War Production Board called at the suggestion of Dr. Longman regarding some of the positions on rubber work at the Eastern and Northern Laboratories. Dr. Brothers' background is entirely one of chemistry and rubber compounding. Apparently, he does not fit into anything we have in mind. [Later Dr. Brothers telephoned and said that he had secured a position in another Government agency.]

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A statement was prepared for the Secretary's signature to Mr. Soong, China Defense Supplies, Inc., indicating that we could undertake the work on fractionating and evaluating any motor fuels which might be produced by the cracking of vegetable oils. [Northern Laboratory]

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Mr. Gastrock and Mr. Speh talked to Mr. McCormack of Newport Industries, Pensacola, Florida, relative to the use of plant at Bay Minnette for the processing of goldenrod.

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Mr. Speh talked by telephone to Dexter Lewis of the Naval Stores Division, War Production Board, re isoprene for synthetic rubber at present 2 percent being increased to 5 percent. Some neoprenes use as much as 95% isoprene. The use of pine gum in rubber may require roughly 500 thousand barrels of gum. Mr. Lewis also talked about the use of turpentine in synthetic rubber and isoprenes, also crude rubber.

Thursday, December 17, 1942

9

Dr. Skinner related to Dr. Stevens his conference with W. Parker Jones regarding the Libby-McNeil and Libby lawsuit. Dr. S. discussed possible complications in permitting a Bureau employee to participate in litigation as an expert witness. Mr. Speh contended that the issue of a Public Service patent by the Department implied a degree of obligation to support the patent, if challenged. Dr. Skinner agreed. Stevens inquired of von Loesecke as to the whereabouts of the notebooks needed by Dr. Swenson. Decision as to whether notebooks would be sent to Dr. Swenson or whether photographic copies would be sent was deferred. *the typewriter*

*(continued next page)*

- \* Dr. Skinner discussed with Mr. Cardon a memo to Dr. Auchter about accomodating the 13 representatives of South American which it is proposed to send here in 1943. Suggested it was desirable to wait until Dr. Auchter could discuss the matter with Wheeler and make some determination as to an over-all policy. *2*

Also discussed with Cardon some developments in regard to the production of goldenrod rubber. Cardon was advised with that some of the things suggested by Dr. Auchter in his very recent letter to Cardon had already been taken care of. *✓*

- \* *Mr. Speh advised Jan. 19 that this matter was still not settled & that N.A. would send a memo when it is.*  
*8. 1/19/43*

*(continued next page)*



December 17, 1942 \*

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(Libby, McNeil and Libby Court Case)

NOTE BY H. STEVENS

Spoke to Swenson about this January 13, and he said that he was well acquainted with the representative of Libby, McNeil and Libby and that this representative had not visited him since Dr. Skinner's letter was issued to Parker Jones. Dr. Swenson stated further that all of the information which had is available together with copies of patents which have already been provided to counsel for LM&L. Dr. Swenson said that he had no idea where the original records of these experiments are stored, to which I replied that such an admission would seem to me indiscreet. Dr. Swenson said he had no desire to testify on this and doubted that he would be requested to do so. I urged him to speak about the matter to Mr. Speh or Dr. Skinner so that this matter could be definitely settled before Dr. Swenson's departure.

*H. Stevens 1/14*

NOTE BY DR. SWENSON

In further reference to the use of information developed on the deaeration process, the patents which issued as a result of that work constitute a complete summary of information developed in the Bureau. In view of this, I doubt that live testimony would add anything which would be of use in hearings on this matter. Therefore, should a request come to me to give testimony at the hearings, it is suggested that attention be called to the fact that the patent represents all of the information which is available in this connection.

*JL Swenson 1/16/43*

NOTE BY DR. SWENSON

1/22

I told Mr. Parker Jones that probably H.H. Mottern had the notes which would be of most value, as Mottern had made the commercial application of the process. Insofar as I am concerned, the patent summarizes all information available.

TL Swenson

\*Entered January 14, 1943

*(Continued next page)*



December 17, 1942

11  
C. F. Speh

Mr. Rea Paul of the Rubber Division of the War Production Board telephoned Mr. Speh regarding the proposed minimum specifications for Norepol. He is planning, subject to approval, of course, to send a letter of explanation and a copy of the proposed specifications to the ten companies who have indicated an interest in the manufacture of Norepol, asking for their comments.

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Mr. E. N. Romaine of the Neleoresin Corporation called on Mr. Speh and discussed the use of turpentine gum in rubber, estimating that possibly as much as 10 percent of gum would be added for 800,000 tons of Buna S rubber. This would amount to about 500,000 barrels of gum. Mr. Romaine indicated that preliminary experiments of the gum produced by the Bureau's gum process were more satisfactory than released resin gum. Mr. Speh and Mr. Romaine discussed also the present arrangement for the use of the still at the station for the fractionating of turpentine and myrcene.

Friday, December 18, 1942

12

9:30 conference. Mr. Speh instructed to prepare statements re philosophy behind Bureau's contribution to the war effort, to be used for House Hearings. To stress that a great deal of the Bureau's activity is already serviceable war activity. Emphasize what has special reference to the war effort. Prepare a statement covering the whole program as presented at the Budget hearings.

Henry Stevens is to attend certain important meetings. Stevens and Speh to work together.

Speh and Stevens to be present at Budget conferences to be held with Chiefs of Divisions, beginning with Monday morning, Dec. 28, each morning at 9:30 in this office. Program to be arranged by Mrs. Jacobs.

Dr. S. R. Weiner of AMA (Ext. 4205) called inquiring about the production of ascorbic acid. Dr. Skinner promised to have Dr. Wells contact Dr. Weiner regarding this matter on Monday, December 21. (*memo of Wells*  
*Wells conf in Dr. Skinner's desk*)

Mr. Schoenhals advised that in the light of all the conditions, the Kaufman deferment case should be dropped. Dr. Skinner was entirely agreeable to this decision and the recommendation was sent to N.E. Jack.

Fred Bailey, writer for the Country Gentlemen, came in to discuss pilot plant work of the Bureau, and especially those phases of our work contributing to the war effort. We discussed the rubber activities of the bureau, both synthetic and natural, dehydration - especially the egg work, and starch. Dr. S. showed Mr. B. our war activities book and told him of the 176 war projects of the Bureau.

NOTE re Alcohol Conference at 2 P.M. IN Mr. Cardon's off.

*Mr. Speh said he would send this letter. Fair - 1/19*

*(Continued on next page)*

Friday, December 18 (Continued)

13

Mr. Lynch contacted Dr. Skinner by long distance telephone to discuss the work Mr. Cheatham was doing with Lynch on the cotton for tires program. (Mr. Cheatham had proceeded to New Orleans at the telegraphic instruction of Dr. Auchter.) Mr. Cheatham stated that he and Mr. Lynch had decided that he (Cheatham) could return to Washington but would be subject to call as soon as certain results were secured in New Orleans. It was estimated this would certainly not be before January 1, or sometime during the first week in January. Mr. Lynch confirmed Mr. Cheatham's statement, and in reply to Dr. Skinner's inquiry as to the justification for the expense of Mr. Cheatham's returning to Washington and then almost immediately returning to New Orleans, he stated it was their conclusion (Lynch's and Cheatham's) that the expense was justified. Dr. Skinner told Mr. Lynch and Mr. Cheatham that he was in no position to pass intelligently upon whether or not the trip was justified and told Lynch and Cheatham that they would have to assume entire responsibility, which each of them stated they were prepared to do. Dr. Skinner called Mr. Cheatham's attention to the telegram from Dr. Auchter, with which he was familiar, indicating that his services in New Orleans are necessary for the development of the cotton tire cord program. (A transcript of this entire telephone conversation is being made a matter of record)

(*filed with other Cotton Cord material for Mr. J. B. Clark.*)

(see next page)



Wheat Alcohol Conference, Mr. Cardon's Office

Present: P. H. Groggins, OAWR  
Gordon McBride, OAWR  
H. S. Paine, BACE  
P. Burke Jacobs, BACE, NRRL  
C. L. Forsling, FS  
J. A. Hall, FS  
G. W. Trayer, FS  
P. V. Cardon, ARA

Purpose: To discuss the feasibility of the production of ethyl alcohol from wood cellulose. Dr. Hall presented data on the possible volume of alcohol obtainable from wood waste, amounting to 35 million gallons annually. The Scherlalen-Tornesch process was discussed. Mr. Paine presented a statement on the use of sorgo in the production of alcohol. It was conceded that the said problem would be of great importance. Estimated 20 million gallons of alcohol would be obtainable from this composition.

P. Burke Jacobs presented data on the present yields of grains. There seem to be 363 million gallons as a possible yield under present conditions.

Mr. Groggins reported estimated requirements of ethyl alcohol this year would be 550 million gallons. This should be increased by 100 million gallons.

Outcome: Suggested that a statement be prepared by each group indicating potential production from three sources — grains, sorghum and wood.

Monday, December 21, 1942

15

Mr. C. P. Wilson, of the California Fruit Growers Exchange, Ontario, California, called. He stated that the value of the byproducts work in California Exchange last year grossed on the citrus byproducts of the California Fruit Growers \$11,000,000 for their year, closing in October. He said the other citrus byproducts activities, of which at one time there were 35 companies in California, showed a total production of \$6,000,000 of byproducts material; thus making a total for California of \$17,000,000. Mr. Wilson promised to obtain a revised list of producers together with pictures of the two new byproducts plants, and send them to this office. OK

Mr. Cardon called a conference of Bureau Chiefs for 10 A.M. (In Dr. Skinner's absence, Mr. Speh attended this conference. At one o'clock in the afternoon, Dr. Skinner called a Division Chiefs meeting to consider the subject-matter of Mr. Cardon's conference. It pertained to a telegram from Dr. Auchter requesting itemized lists of known facts of immediate value under present conditions to food administrator; also lists of research nearly completed and lists of problems needing immediate research so our administration can be of effective aid. At the one o'clock conference, Mr. Speh submitted a proposed outline under which the information should be submitted. Dr. Skinner instructed that the information in outline form be submitted on plain paper, unsigned sheets, unnumbered, five copies of each. He designed Mr. Speh and Dr. Stevens to handle and assemble the material which was to be ready for submission to Dr. Auchter's office the first thing Tuesday morning. (sent 12/23/42) MK

Mr. Cardon called re a conference in his office on Tuesday morning at 2:30, with an inventor of a corn cutting knife, referred to this Dept. by Mr. Bishop of the WPB. Mr. Cardon asked for representatives of this Bureau to be present at the conference and Dr. Skinner designed Mr. R. B. Gray and Dr. LeClerc. These gentlemen were notified regarding this by Mrs. Jacobs. OK

Tuesday, December 22, 1942

Mr. Ferris, Washington representative of the U. S. Sugar Corporation called regarding the proposed agreement under consideration and Dr. Skinner promised to notify him and Mr. Bitting just as soon as a definite decision was reached here. Mr. Ferris left addresses with Mrs. Jacobs.

Dr. Swenson and Mr. Lynch were notified by wire to be in Washington for the week beginning January 7 for the purpose of conferences regarding House Hearings of Subcommittee on Appropriations. Dr. Wells was notified in person and it is understood that Mr. Herrick will be in Washington from the present time up to and including the week of January 7.

Discussed with Wells and Speh, Wells memo of December 5 enclosing a proposed memorandum to W. A. Jump, Director of Finance, regarding authority for laboratory directors and division chiefs accepting responsibility for undertaking work for war agencies. The conclusion was that Mr. Speh and Dr. Skinner would consider the matter further and determine whether or not it should be submitted to Dr. Auchter for approval. *(settled by Alvin memo app't here as liaison officer)*

The material for Secretary Wickard's use in planning his program as Food Administrator was sent to Mr. Cardon today, with the exception of a small portion of material which will either go over late this afternoon or the first thing in the morning. *ok City in evening*

Memo to Mr. Schoenthals re industrial blowers for dehydration work was sent over by special messenger at 4:45 P. M. today.

Dr. Skinner discussed with Mr. Teuton the preparation of material to be used at Dr. Woods' conference on January 7. The seeming conflict with the conferences proposed by Hambridge and T. Roy Red was also discussed with Mr. Teuton who was to discuss the matter further with Hambridge and advise Dr. Skinner.



Wednesday, December 23, 1942

7  
Mr. Salter of BPI called in reference to the provision in the memorandum of agreement between the two bureaus concerning the development of the work of the BPI at the Soybean Regional Laboratory at Urbana. According to the agreement the conference should be held and a report filed with each bureau before the first of December. Mr. Salter suggested that the conference should be held either at Urbana or Peoria and he preferred Mr. Carter to represent Plant Industry. I told him Mr. Herrick was away and would probably be here until January 15, and while the Acting Chief of the Bureau laboratory could probably handle the matter with Mr. Carter, I thought it would be preferable for Mr. Herrick to do so unless the matter was of such urgency as it could not wait until after January 15. Mr. Salter thought it could wait but suggested that as Mr. Herrick was in Washington, it might be a good idea for Herrick, Morse and May to confer before Mr. Herrick left Washington. (Morse and May to go) ✓

Memos to Division Chiefs re budget conferences to start Monday morning, December 28, at 9:30 signed by Dr. Skinner and issued today. ✓

Thursday, December 24, 1942

18

Mr. Schoenhals called regarding a request from the Secretary for space to be relinquished by December 31. A telegram was immediately sent to Mr. Donovan asking for suggestions. Stevens and Price to review space situation. *Report issued.*

Mr. Kinghorn (2041) called regarding a report by L. S. Stuart on containers for dried eggs. He stated it was very necessary that this report be secured this afternoon. Dr. S. contacted Mr. Teuton and instructed him to follow issuance of report. *Issued Sat, Dec. 26*

Mr. Herrick reported in this morning.

Dr. Skinner wishes to discuss with Spoh and Stevens the preparation of material for members of Congress.

In response to Dr. Skinner's request regarding Interagencies, how organized, etc. in order to determine whether or not a memo from Dr. Swenson regarding the Northwest Interagency Council should issue without approval through Dr. Auchter's office, Dr. Stevens consulted the Bureau files and recommended that such Interagency matters issue from this Bureau without consideration by Dr. Auchter because of evidence pointing to the purpose of this council as requiring representation at bureau or field station level.

December 26, 1942

Mr. Hollingshead and Dr. Stevens met in Mr. Speh's office re: correction in the building and plant layout to reduce risk of loss by fire and explosion of Basic Vegetable Concentrates at Vacaville, Calif. ✓

Several conferences have been held with representatives of the AMA and Dr. Price in which it was pointed out that the production of the plant of the above concern is jeopardized because of what is considered to be an unusually high explosion risk. This matter has received attention of the War Dept. because of its interest in production, of the AMA through its interest in production and the fact that Government loans have been made on the plant. A letter is being prepared by the AMA addressed to Mr. Hollingshead asking that the Bur. Agr. Chem. & Eng. review certain recommendations and specifications for changes in plant construction and layout in order to reduce the risk of loss from fire and explosion. I have authorized Mr. Hollingshead to turn this matter over to Dr. Price, who is to review the submitted recommendations and offer comments which, in turn, will be sent by Mr. Hollingshead to AMA. It is impossible to determine the probable time needed, but approximately one week should be sufficient. ✓

*Mr. Thomas of Amato go. (See memo to C. B. Woodbury 7-7-43)*  
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Mr. Thurber, Southern Reg. Res. Lab., discussed sweetpotato starch. The Laurel plant produced 1 million pounds this season. Could produce 4 million lbs. (400,000 bushels); could sell 100 million pounds. A textile concern in Essex, Mass., making an electrical insulation fabric wants 80,000 lbs. because of the claimed higher dielectric constant.

Laurel plant paid \$11 per ton for potatoes. Local concerns were paying \$17.50. Thurber says he believes AMA will pay a subsidy of 30¢ per bu. for sweetpotatoes to reach production goals.

Pulp selling for \$27.50 per ton as cattle food.  
Could sell pulp from the 400,000 bu.

Starch sold for 5.8¢ per lb. net at plant.

Stein Hall want 3 million pounds at 7-8¢ per lb.



Monday, December 28, 1942

20

Mr. Cone of Civil Service Commission called making inquiry about Katherine Sherman. She had given Dr. Skinner's name as reference to the Commission. ✓

Conference with Gray and Donovan regarding disposition of building at Ames. Discussion continued by Donovan and Gray; Mr. Donovan to report to Dr. Skinner their conclusion. *Re: Ames Bldg. 1/20*

Conference with Gray and Donovan regarding alleged unsatisfactory arrangements with Capt. Kelly on agricultural engineering work at Salinas. Mr. Donovan to advise Dr. Skinner further about this.

Conference with Wells and Speh regarding set-up for continuing hemlock tanning extract work in the WRRL. The proposed writeup of a project of Mr. Senseman for the WRRL was discussed. It was decided to hold the matter in abeyance until Dr. Swenson arrives for the January conference. *Mr. Following telegram* was sent to Dr. Swenson: "Bring necessary information to discuss hemlock bark project." *Conf. held Jan. 19*

Conference with Speh, Donovan, Stevens, Price and Prienckert regarding release of further office space in response to Mr. Schoenhal's request. Analysis and breakdown prepared by Dr. Price was considered and the matter referred to Mr. Donovan for action. ✓  
Mr. Donovan advised later in the day (5:15 P.M.) that he was ready to discuss matter further with Dr. Skinner the first thing Tuesday morning.

*Re: Ames Bldg.*

*(continued next page)*

\*Conference on Western Hemlock Bark held 1/21 (Skinner, Wells, Swenson, Speh). Statement on proposed program to be prepared ~~by~~ by Wells and sent to Swenson. ✓

January  
1943

December 28, 1942C. F. Speh

Some time ago Dunkley Company, dehydrators of meat, requested the Quartermaster Corps through Colonel Logan to look into their product with a view to purchasing for the Army. Similar requests had been made to this Bureau some time ago but the products indicated that they were no better and in some cases inferior to other similar products offered on the market. Nothing was undertaken therefore along this line. This decision created the impression with the Dunkley people that this Bureau was somewhat prejudiced against the process.

Apparently, arrangements were made whereby a Mr. Lauck of the American Can Company would act as neutral body to collect samples at the Dunkley plant, turning part of them over to the Western Regional Research Laboratory for examination and the rest over to Dr. Borsook of the California Institute of Technology. On August 15th Dr. Auchter wrote to Colonel Logan that such an arrangement would be satisfactory and we would examine the samples to determine mineral constituents and vitamins. The matter was brought to my attention by Mr. Chace while I was in Rochester. I did not know about the letter of Dr. Auchter. I stated to Mr. Chace that I felt that the Company was big enough to insist that it test its own samples. In fact, I explained this to Dr. Auchter upon my return from Rochester. Nothing further was done on the matter until several days ago when Mr. Hollingshead reported that Colonel Logan was concerned with the fact that the original program was not being carried out.

I immediately wired to Mr. Chace that he carry out the program as promised in Dr. Auchter's letter. Mr. Chace wired back yesterday that while at the Western Laboratory, Dr. Auchter had stated that we need not run these samples on the premise that the Laboratory is extremely busy and could not at this time participate. I called Dr. Auchter yesterday and explained the situation to him. He first suggested that the samples be sent to Washington to run moisture, weight, mineral and protein tests. Then he stated that conferences were being held with Colonel Doriot and he would let me know the outcome and we could decide what to do on this program.



Tuesday, December 29, 1942

22

Discussed with Speh the need for a clear statement of the dehydration program for 1944. Advised him that I had written to Chace requesting that he send immediately a program formulated in complete detail for the remainder of this year and for the next fiscal year. Also discussed the recommendation of Hollingshead in a memorandum of \_\_\_\_\_ regarding the organization and operation of the dehydration schools. It was decided to send a night letter to Chace and to Diehl asking them to come on for a conference during the week beginning January 7 to formulate the program, while Swenson is here. The plan is to get the program and discuss it with Colonel Logan and then present it in detail, with estimates for needed money, to Dr. Auchter, with the idea that he could present it to the AMA. ✓

At Hollingshead's suggestion called in Senseman and instructed him to prepare a chronological statement of the dehydration program from 1940 to this date. ✓

*Dr. J. F. Reine 1/7/43*

Wednesday, December 30, 1942

Mr. Logan of the Beltsville Research Center called to ask when we were going to move into the North Building as Plant Industry were already moving out. He stated the reason he would like to know was that there would probably be some saving in piping and wiring in the dismantling if we could tell the Beltsville Research Center just what we planned to do in our Bureau's occupancy. Mr. Donovan told him that we could do this and he has arranged to have Dr. Price call Mr. Keller of the Beltsville Research Center, who is in charge of the dismantling operations as far as the Center is concerned, tomorrow morning. Dr. Price will give Mr. Keller the information he needed. Mr. Logan also said he was concerned as to when our Bureau was going to move into the North Building because their schedule of costs to Plant Industry had been based on the full fiscal year's occupancy and they felt they would have to take up with Plant Industry the question of these expenses for the interval of idleness of the building pending our moving in. I told Mr. Logan that our Bureau was awaiting response from Dr. Auchter as to the availability of certain funds for the moving of this Bureau to Beltsville.

Notice was received that Jonathan M. White was classified II-B until June 14. Mr. Donovan called Mr. Herrell and suggested that it might be best not to take up with National Headquarters of the Selective Service System the letter of November 20 sent by Mr. David L. Johnson of Lafayette, Indiana, in which he explained that he found it necessary to decline appointment as Assistant Chemist at the Eastern Regional Research Laboratory for work on the Emergency Rubber Project in view of the statement made to him by the Chairman of his local draft board to the effect that the Board would not grant deferments to any individual employees of the Eastern Regional Research Laboratory. Mr. Herrell agreed that it was best not to go any further and therefore he was going to endorse on his file that, in view of the deferment of Jonathan M. White, no further action would be taken.

(Continued next page)

Wednesday, December 30, 1942

24

Memo re space sent to Mr. Schoenhals by Mr. Donovan, showing amount of space which can be surrendered. (Copy in files of this office) ✓

The matter of moving to Beltsville was discussed and Dr. Price reported that with the exception of space for Drs. Balls, Jones and Stevens, he was of the opinion that all of our chemical work could be adequately housed. He brought up the question of the possible use of the air-conditioned space for animals which was provided in the building formerly assigned to the Food and Drug Adm. ✓  
Mr. Donovan is to find out from Mr. Schoenhals if this additional space can be assigned to us or the air-conditioning equipment moved to the North Building. *Referred to KAD 1/1/43*

The following telegram was sent to Mr. Chace:

"Desire you and Van Arsdel to be in Washington on January 12 for conference of the Dehydration Committee to report on program for the remainder of the year and the possible program for 1944. Length of stay here uncertain." ✓



Thursday, December 31, 1942

25

Budget Conferences:

R. B. Gray

S. Palkin

A. K. Balls

*Report in separate Book*

Friday, January 1, 1942

26

Budget Conference - 11 A.M. - Dr. D. B. Jones  
Present: C.F. Speh, H. Stevens, H.A. Donovan, H.S.  
Paine, R.S Hollingshead

Meeting of Bureau Chiefs and Assistant Chiefs in Dr. Auchter's office. Dr. Auchter announced that he desired each Bureau Chief to call to the attention of the members of his organization the desirability of avoiding all commitments with the Agriculture Department and other Governmental agencies which would, as a matter of policy, require his approval or disapproval. He referred to a specific instance where three different Army or Navy officers contacted three different associate research scientists, and none of the three scientists knew that any one of the others had made the same request about the same subject. Not one of the three Officers or not one of the three scientists knew that the other was making the identically same request. Commitments had been made for each of the projects that were put up to him for yes or no. Dr. Auchter pointed out the impossibility of handling work in this fashion. He did not say how the notifications were to be made by each Bureau Chief so I requested that each submit the question to which he referred in writing, suggesting what was to be avoided. He further said that he wanted all such further requests for work by other agencies to come to him with the approval of the Chief of the Bureau. He also discussed the relation of the ARA to the food production and the food distribution administration. He explained that it was the purpose of administrators to rely upon the research organization for factual matter. He introduced Mr. Chas. J. Woodbury, formerly Director of National Cannerys and formerly Director of the Indiana Agricultural Experiment Station, Mr. Woodbury is to be liaison officer with the Food Production Administrator, Food Distribution Administrator, the various Bureaus in the Department, the various offices of other governmental agencies, and the public on all matters of food research and technology. He said specifically that Bureau Chiefs should first discuss problems that were necessary to come to his office for consideration or approval with Mr. Woodbury.

(Continued on next page)

27  
Dr. Auchter also said that perhaps other liaison  
officers would be attached to his office.

Adv. memo 3 covering



Saturday, January 2, 1943

28

Budget Conference - 10:00 A.M. - Mr. Paine  
Present: C.F.Speh, H. Stevens, H.A.Donovan,  
R.S.Hollingshead, and Dr. Skinner

Budget Conference - 2 P.M. - Same persons

*(See Speh notes next page)*

January 2, 1943 (Continued)

C. F. Speh

Mr. Dexter North, Consultant for the Office of the Alien Property Custodian, called at 2:00 p.m. and conferred with Mr. Senseman and Mr. Speh relative to patents being handled by the Alien Property Custodian. He left an index of patents and I have recommended the purchase of one catalogue listing the patents for each regional research laboratory and one for the Washington administrative offices. The price of the catalogue is \$5.00 and the binder is \$2.00.

Monday, January 4, 1943

*filed dehydration*

30

Dr. Woodbury called to discuss Dr. Skinner's memo relative to graphs showing possible savings in metals, space and transportation by shifting from canning to dehydration. Mr. Woodbury and Dr. Auchter think tables should be prepared for the 7 or 8 vegetables which come into the dehydration picture now under the proposed goal of 400,000,000 pounds. Mr. Woodbury suggests that data on 7 or 8 vegetables be set up in a table, and it is also suggested that 1000 cases of #2 cans (which is a carload) might be considered as a unit of value. He thinks ~~then~~ we should have the weight in pounds and the volume in cubic feet of the raw products, also the weight and cubic feet of the product in cans, and the weights and cubic feet of the same material in dehydrated products. He also wants a breakdown of the 400,000,000 pounds of dehydrated products and what this means in production goals either in tons or acres of the same 7 or 8 vegetables.

2 P.M. Budget conference with Division Chiefs, Donovan, Speh and Stevens. Summarized justification statements submitted for the budget. Some few minor changes were made and Mr. Speh asked for some additional information.

Mr. Donovan reported on the statement for ARA regarding the Bureau's method of meeting the quota to take care of the increase in overtime salaries. (Memo to Auchter of Jan. 4 in current office file)

Mr. Hollingshead submitted a statement covering his conference with Mr. Dodds regarding the engineering services which are needed to consummate the extension of the dehydration program. Proposed letter to ARA redrafted by RSH and issued to Dr. Auchter this afternoon. (See copy in office current file)



Tuesday, January 5, 1943

31

Mr. Ferris, representative of U. S. Sugar Corp. called about the status of the two agreements with the Department and the U. S. Sugar Corp. I reported to him that just this morning the proposed agreement had been cleared by the Office of the Solicitor. I called his attention to the fact that the title page did not seem to be in accord with the signatures prepared on the last page of the document in which the contract was apparently entered into between the BACE and the sugar company, while the signatures provided for the company and the Secretary of Agriculture. I promised Mr. Ferris that the papers would be sent over for consideration of the Director of ARA, and then to the Secretary for accomplishment. I also promised I would follow the matter up to see if consideration could not be expedited. ✓

Budget Conference - Mr. Donovan, Mr. Speh and H. Stevens.

Wednesday, January 6, 1943

32

Discussed with Speh, Donovan and Stevens the reference of mail and other Bureau letters. Discussed methods of improving filing system. Decided to maintain a current file with Mrs. Jacobs of internal Bureau matters; material in this file to be distributed to the main file room once a month. ✓

Mr. Chas. G. Woodbury called in reference to the statement about 400,000,000 pounds of dehydrated fruits and vegetables which appeared in the January 4 issue of the Canning Trade. The breakdown of this 400,000,000 pounds is as follows (estimated by representatives at Chicago Food Conference)

	<u>Pounds</u>
White potatoes	134,000,000
Beets	26,000,000
Onions	20,000,000
Cabbage	34,000,000
Carrots	13,000,000
Turnips	9,000,000
Peas	12,000,000
Soups:	
Navy Bean	33,000,000
Green pea	27,000,000
Yellow Pea	27,000,000
Chick Pea	27,000,000
Tomato	15,000,000
Noodle	5,000,000
Soya Bean Combination	5,000,000
Tomato Juice Cocktail	1,500,000

*The figures were  
used by Hayden of  
Serdice but are  
not a true figure.  
They are  
estimated  
R. S. B.*

Of these quantities 67,000,000 pounds is to be allocated for civilian use, the balance for military and lend-lease.

Mr. Woodbury also inquired as to available men to serve from this Bureau on Advisory Committee and I suggested that he contact Paine and/or LeClerc.

Mr. Woodbury wants the above data on the 400,000,000 pounds of dehydrated material calculated to show the equivalent of raw material and acreage, and based on this information someone will then determine the requirements for seed. *(Sent 1/7/43)*

Discussed with Hollingshead the relation of this request to the statement he and von Loesecke are preparing (see next page)

ing, which was to be ready for me this afternoon.

Discussed with Speh and Stevens the list prepared by Mrs. Jacobs of unfinished referred items. I wish to make the consideration of such material a regular matter of business for each Monday morning.

Conference in Dr. Auchter's office regarding the effect of the increase in salaries for overtime. Dr. Auchter stated that apparently other agencies than ARA were not disturbed about the question of money and proposed to provide for it out of operating expense. This cannot be done by the Bureaus of ARA. Dr. Auchter had already discussed the matter with the Secretary and had been told to come back again Thursday morning for a further discussion with the idea of going to the Bureau of the Budget for some relief. The memorandum from Mr. Jump has to be answered immediately so it may be in the Secretary's office by January 13.

Mr. Donovan arranged for us to go to Beltsville to inspect the North Building some time Thursday.

The panel discussion arranged for Dr. Skinner for January 7 has been postponed to February 2 at 11:45 A.M. - Mr. Speh made talk



Thursday, January 7, 1943

34

*Wheat for*  
Congressman Lempke called on the telephone about correspondence which he had had with the Governor of North Dakota regarding the use of damaged North Dakota wheat for the production of alcohol, and especially about the proposal to establish at Mandan or Bismarck a plant for producing alcohol. He inquired if experimental work could be done at the Peoria Laboratory on this problem. I told him of the work which had been done, both by us and others, in the utilization of alcohol and pointed out that all of our staff ~~was~~ *now* engaged on a similar problem in the production of butylene glycol from starchy materials. I told him about the difficulty in getting satisfactory yield from wheat and I further told him that such experimental work as we could do on wheat in the production of alcohol would apply to any wheat similar to that grown in North Dakota. I told him that we had already had correspondence with Congressman Robertson and that I would be glad to send him a copy of that correspondence. We had quite a discussion about the production of alcohol from various fermentable substances and Mr. Lempke agreed that the problem was to obtain ~~rubber~~ *available* and that we should obtain rubber from whatever sources as quickly as possible, regardless of cost. In regard to the allotment of metal for the establishment of a plant in North Dakota, I advised him that ~~this was something~~ *in prospect 11:00* that should come before Mr. Jeffers. He agreed that that was so and that he would take the matter up with the Rubber Administrator. I should discuss this with Mr. Her-  
rick while he is in Washington. *(Call. Herick 11/9/43)*

Directors' conference today 10-12 A.M. Among other items discussed during this conference was the matter of Dr. Auchter's request of Wednesday afternoon for the information requested in Mr. Jacobs' memo of January 2 regarding the program to save Manpower in Government agencies. *11/9*  
The Directors were to meet at 2 in the afternoon to prepare statement. *(unattended)*

The afternoon hearings on the budget for the laboratories are to start January 8. (Postponed to January 9)

Mr. Donovan and I discussed with the Chiefs of Divisions the memorandum of Mr. Jampbs as to how it is proposed to obtain money to pay for increase in salaries under legislation passed by Congress in December. *Ref. to H. and S. 1/9*

Thurs. - January 7, 1943

C. F. Speh

35

Dr. Stuart of Agr. Chem. Res. Div. called to say that last week Mr. Stacom, originator of the Stacom Process (a subsidiary of the Worthington Pump & Machinery Co., New York) came with Mr. Poindexter of WPB to talk with him about the Stacom Process. Dr. Stuart thinks certain aspects of it merit further attention of the Bureau and he expects to make a trip to New York in the near future for further conference on the subject. The trip will be followed by a written report on the whole subject.

Received 1/11/43 - placed in *ef*

Friday, January 8, 1943

36

Memo from Dr. Auchter re coordination and correlation of all food research information (including clearance of requests, proposals and project recommendations for food research) and designating Mr. Chas. G. Woodbury as Special Assistant responsible for this coordination, sent to Directors, Assistant Bureau Chiefs, Division Chiefs and E.M. Chace. ✓

Dr. Skinner, Mr. Donovan, Dr. Price and Dr. Stevens went to Beltsville Research Center to inspect space in the North Building which is to be occupied by laboratories of the Bureau. ✓



January 8, 1943

C. F. Speh

37

Memorandum of Conference

In attendance: Dr. D. Breese Jones  
Dr. Henry Stevens  
Mr. C. F. Speh

Relative to: Work of Protein and Nutrition Research  
Division and Allergens Investigations  
Division

(1) Basic valuable research on proteins can be conducted without animals. However, unless these results can be tied in with nutritional studies, work could not be justified as a war activity.

(2) Research in laboratory and clinic on allergens can be conducted. However, without animals work could not be justified as a war activity.

(3) Protein and Nutrition Research Division needs strengthening.

(4) Suggestions:

- (a) Merge Protein and Nutrition Research and Allergens Investigations Divisions
- (b) Retain the newly formed division in the South Building of Agriculture (Washington) until proper facilities at Beltsville are available.

Dr. Jones will survey the facilities in the basement of the South Building in order to arrange for supplementing space now occupied by Allergens Investigations Division in order to provide for housing his third floor office and laboratory.

Alternatives: (1) use facilities at South Building, Beltsville. (rejected). (2) move facilities from South Bldg., Beltsville, to North Bldg. (rejected). (3) conduct work without animals (rejected).

January 9, 1943

C. F. Speh

Memorandum of Conference  
in Mr. Cardon's Office  
9:30 a.m.

Present: R. B. Gray            C. F. Speh  
          E. T. Herrick        T. L. Swenson  
          D. F. J. Lynch      C. F. Walton  
                                P. A. Wells

To discuss priorities on equipment needed by the Bureau in conducting its work.

F. B. Northrup has been appointed Government materials officer, who will represent the Department of Agriculture on a committee to make allocations of materials. The Department of Agriculture will be one of the claimant agencies along with other claimant agencies such as War, Navy, etc. The Department is expected to indicate what materials should be allocated by quarterly periods to be used in the production, processing, etc. of those commodities assigned to the Food Administrator. The particular subject of discussion was to provide a mechanism of assuring speedy delivery of materials needed by the Department in its research work.

*(End next page)*

Saturday, January 9, 1943

39

Statement to Woodbury giving figures re volume and weights per cu. ft. and per shipping ton of certain fresh, canned and dried fruits and vegetables. (NOTE: Dr. Skinner questioned this statement as first submitted by von. L. and was disturbed to find an error in it. The error was finally corrected by J.O.Reed and the corrected figures sent to Mr. W) 3 copies sent over -J

Mr. Coe, who was enroute to Florida was in here for final instructions. He was explicitly told that he was not on a dehydration mission. His function is to determine if the antioxidants advocated by ERRL were applicable in the prevention of rancidity in dried fish. Mr. Speh and I were very sceptical about Coe's mission since it seems to both of us that he is simply advocating a new method of drying fish, either without light or under variable conditions of light. His application of antioxidants seems to be entirely secondary and perhaps not in the picture at all. He was warned that he cannot commit the Bureau in any way in the program of fish dehydration and it was explained to him that this was based on two facts (1) the dehydration of fish is not in the program of this Department's; (2) If it were in this Department it would logically come under the dehydration setup for the purpose of considering such matters and not under the project assigned to the ERRL.

A further conference scheduled later in the afternoon was held with Dr. Wells and Mr. Speh also present. Dr. Wells reiterated what had been said to Coe in the morning to the effect that he was going to Florida in an advisory capacity only and that he was not to be a party to a dehydration project. Coe said he thoroughly understood the situation.

+ Dr Skinner

(Continued next page)



Monday, January 11, 1943

40

Staff Conference, 9:30 A.M.

Present: Directors, Chiefs of Divisions, and  
administration leaders.

Subjects discussed:

Memo of Dr. Auchter of Jan. 5 re food research  
coordination under Dr. Woodbury

Military deferments

Difficulties in handling correspondence because  
of lack of initialing and dating. Suggestion  
that a memo on this subject be issued (Prepared  
in rough draft by fmj) *Sent.*

Meeting closed with a fifteen-minute talk by Dr.  
Wells on natural rubbers

\* \* \*

Discussed with Paine and Hollingehead the necessity  
for checking of data submitted to other agencies. It  
was agreed that some system should be established,  
but the method of applying it was not discussed. 2

Discussed with Dr. May the impact on the food work  
of this Bureau on the transfer of the activities  
formerly carried on in the Food Division of the WPB. ✓

*(Continued next page)*

Monday, January 11, 1943

✓ 41

Conference called by Dr. Skinner at 4:00 p.m. January 11

Present: Dr. Skinner, Mr. Speh, Mr. Donovan, Mr. Paine,  
Mr. Hollingshead, and Mr. von Loesecke

Dr. Skinner stated that in the preparation of certain data by Mr. von Loesecke on the reduction through dehydration in weight and space requirements of a number of vegetables and fruits for the information of Dr. Woodbury and the Secretary, a serious error was made in the figures on peaches. Dr. Skinner pointed out that before signing the memorandum to Dr. Woodbury as prepared by Mr. von Loesecke he had noted the figures for peaches and had called Mr. von Loesecke's particular attention to the fact that these figures did not look right. Dr. Skinner stated that Mr. von Loesecke had insisted that the figures were right but after considerable discussion Dr. Skinner had decided that Mr. J. O. Reed should check these figures. The result of this check by Mr. Reed and Mr. von Loesecke disclosed that the figures given by Mr. von Loesecke were entirely wrong and that if they had been used by the Secretary or the Department it might have involved tremendous embarrassment.

Dr. Skinner stated that his purpose in calling Mr. von Loesecke before the group was to make perfectly clear to him the seriousness of his error and the far-reaching consequences that might have resulted had the figures not caught Dr. Skinner's eye and raised the question of doubt in his mind. Dr. Skinner emphasized that while any one may make an error, errors in matters of this seriousness cannot be excused.

Dr. Skinner told Mr. von Loesecke that he did not wish for a moment to cause him to lose confidence in himself, but that regardless of the pressure under which he might be working it was imperative that when he cleared matters of such importance for signature he must assure himself that every precaution had been taken to avoid the possibility of error.

H.A.D.

Monday, January 11, 1943 (HAD)

Dr. Charles Parsons, Secretary, American Chemical Society, phoned this afternoon with regard to the deferment situation. He stated he had received a letter from G. W. Buckaloo of the Southern Regional Research Laboratory who advised him that this Bureau was not recommending any deferments pending clarification of the President's memorandum of November 17. Dr. Parsons asked me if that was still the situation. I told him that the Department was now planning to recommend to the President that he approve requested deferments for chemists and that a list of approximately 92 names was now being submitted. I also told Dr. Parsons that at least one special case the Bureau had submitted had been approved by the President. In response to Dr. Parsons' inquiry as to whether Mr. Buckaloo's name was on the list going to the President, I stated it was. ✓

Dr. Parsons asked me if there was any objection to his telling this to Mr. Buckaloo as he felt he had to answer Mr. Buckaloo's letter. I told Dr. Parsons that while I thought he should not indicate definite, specific action by the Secretary, it probably would be all right for him to state that he had reason to believe that his case was going to be submitted to the President. ✓



Tuesday, January 12, 1943

43

Dr. May contacted Dr. Skinner by phone to advise that it was urgent that P.B. Jacobs be summoned to Washington at once in connection with appearing before the Subcommittee <sup>Friday morning, Jan. 15</sup> to present facts regarding byproduct recovery work of our NRRL. Dr. May instructed that the following information be assembled and brought to Washington by Mr. Jacobs: (1) detailed information and data on byproduct recovery; (2) any experimental information on the precipitation of protein material in thin slops. - In the presence of Mr. Speh, Dr. Skinner called Dr. Hilbert at the NRRL by telephone and gave him the instructions as received from Dr. May. Dr. Hilbert stated that Mr. Jacobs would probably leave for Washington Wednesday morning. Dr. Skinner stressed to Dr. Hilbert the importance of Mr. Jacobs being here a little ahead of time in the event of the hearings being held possibly the first thing Friday morning.

Mr. P. N. Annand, Chief of BE&PQ contacted Dr. Skinner re request of his Bureau for the transfer of Mr. Gahan ~~from~~ at Sanford, Florida, where he has been conducting studies on testing tobacco insecticides, and for replacing Gahan with H.L. Mayer. Dr. Skinner contacted Dr. Wells who approved the transfer and replacement, and Dr. Skinner so notified Mr. Annand and Mr. Donovan. Dr. Skinner

/ Discussed with Dr. Auchter the impact upon the work of the research units of ARA which will be brought about by the transfer from WPB of the food research work of that unit to the FDA.

Dr Skinner was called to Dr. Auchter's office to discuss the program of the Department for dehydration of fruits and vegetables. The question of necessary revision of staff of BACE as it will effect Speh, Swenson and Chace was discussed.

Dr. Skinner discussed with Dr. Auchter in the latter's office, Dr. Skinner's memo of January 4, attaching a memo from Mr. Hollingshead regarding engineering assistance in the dehydration of fruits and vegetables for FDA. Dr. Auchter stated that this memo did not reach his desk until January 11, altho it left Dr. Skinner's office on the afternoon of January 4. (A check of BACE files later corroborated Dr. Skinner's statement

Tuesday, January 12 (Cont)

44

to Dr. Auchter). Dr. Skinner then asked Dr. Auchter if he used an accession stamp in his office. Dr. Auchter admitted that he did not have one in his office. Dr. Auchter said that Dr. Skinner's memo and the memo of Hollingshead were not clear and when Dr. Skinner explained the wording of the second, third and fifth paragraphs, Dr. Auchter admitted that May and Cardon had not so interpreted the meaning of these paragraphs. Dr. Skinner said that in his opinion the meaning was perfectly clear, but that if it didn't give that meaning to Dr. A. it was misstated. Dr. Skinner further explained that the transfer of the money was being requested so that properly trained personnel could be employed just as BACE employed personnel under the financial arrangement which set up the Dehydration Schools. Dr. A. agreed to take this matter up with Major Olmstead. Dr. A. and Dr. Skinner made a quick calculation showing that 25 men on a 6-months basis at an average of \$3800 a year and travel expenses of \$1000 a year plus administrative expenses of \$10,000 a year would be equivalent to about \$200,000 a year, or approximately \$100,000 for the remaining 5½ months of this fiscal year. This was a quick and rough estimate but can be made more in detail when it is determined by Major Olmstead and Dr. Auchter as to just what will be needed. Dr. A. said he would notify Dr. Skinner sometime Wednesday as to the result of his conference with Major Olmstead.

Conference with Speh, Donovan and Skinner re question of the interpretation of the wording in the memo of January 5 from Dr. Auchter (centralizing responsibility for all food research work and designating Dr. C.G. Woodbury as supervisor and special assistant to the Administrator). Agreed that the term "modified", 4th line, 2nd paragraph, could only be interpreted as involving questions of change in character and objectives of the project and not as to any change in the operation of the original objective. Where a project is to be discontinued or where it is to be materially expanded or curtailed, especially where the interests of other bureaus are involved, it was decided that this comes within the intent of the memorandum and such action must be cleared with Dr. Woodbury. In this discussion it was agreed that our Bureau considers our war activities as projects within the meaning of Dr. Auchter's memorandum, as our work is now organized entirely on a war activity basis. ✓

~~March~~ <sup>4</sup> 3800 <sub>2</sub>  
 memo

Feb 15  
 Nov 15 9

calculator at  
 his desk Jan 12  
 Mrs

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Wednesday, January 13, 1943

46

Dr. Auchter called about one o'clock to say that the dehydration matters which were discussed on the previous day had progressed in his discussion with the Secretary and that he was calling Hendricksen's office but had been unable to contact either he or Major Olmstead. He hopes however to make the contact before the end of the day and if so will call either late this afternoon or the first thing Thursday morning. See note 1/14 ✓

Mr. Chace and Dr. Skinner discussed several matters in relation to the Los Angeles laboratory, especially the letter from Dr. Beavens to Mr. Paine. He also explained how the Dehydration Committee had handled the color work and stated that Dr. Sando had been instructed to continue his work on the water extract as a criterion for judging color and other qualities of dehydrated vegetables. Mr. Chace thinks it will take Dr. Sando until July 1 to complete this project. He reported that all of the check work on color had been turned over to others and is progressing satisfactorily. He stated he was contemplating having Drs. Bevens and Davis, and Mr. Hammerstrom take a month's training in the engineering side of the work at Albany. He suggested that this may be done as soon as he returns to Albany. He discussed the work of Dr. Martha Davis on applying the color methods in relation to the vitamin potency of dehydrated products. ✓

J. O. Reed brought in the table of results which was prepared by von Loesecke and which he had been instructed to check. There were a few apparent discrepancies, and Reed was instructed to take the matter up with Mr. Hollingshead and make the final report. ✓

W. E. Emley, Bureau of Standards, called and discussed the testing work which is being done at the Bureau of Standards and its coordination with the work of this Bureau and in the field. He expressed a desire to visit the field laboratories and was extended a cordial invitation to do so. Emley looked over the Norepol and other synthetic rubber samples and expressed both surprise and gratification at the results. ✓

Thursday, January 14, 1943

47

9:30 A.M.

Conference on the dehydration program convened with Messrs. Paine, Hollingshead, Chace, van Arsdel, Speh Donovan and Drs. Swenson and Skinner present. The first item taken up was the program submitted by Mr. Chace under date of January 3, for the Dehydration Committee.

At 10 o'clock, Dr. Auchter called and asked if it was convenient for him to come over to further discuss the dehydration matter. I told him I was in conference with the dehydration group but that I could go over to his office, if he preferred. He said he would prefer to come to my office, which he did, and we discussed the program seated in Mr. Donovan's office. Dr. Auchter advised that the organization arrangements for consolidating the dehydration of fruits and vegetables had been approved by the Secretary and that he wishes Mr. Speh to be his representative and attached part time to his office to coordinate the work of fruit and vegetable dehydration in the Bureaus of Plant Industry, Home Economics, and Chemistry and Engineering. He said he would like to have a meeting of the group in his office at 2 o'clock this afternoon when the matter would be explained. Those to be present are Skinner, Speh, Swenson, May, Cardon, Woodbury and Auchter. Dr. Auchter also told me about his contact with Olmstead and the acceptance by Olmstead of the plan to organize a group of inspection engineers and chemists to be trained and directed by this Bureau and to be available upon call for such services as may be needed by the FDA. He explained to Olmstead that it was very necessary for the group to be organized as suggested to be properly instructed by our research men, ~~both~~ engineers, chemists and bacteriologists and that it would be very disastrous to take some of our key men and expect them to do the inspection work personally. Olmstead asked how much it would cost and Dr. Auchter told him \$100,000 and explained that he thought this amount ought to cover ~~and~~ 8 months' activity. I demurred somewhat to this and told Dr. Auchter that the original estimate of \$100,000 was for the remainder of this fiscal year and pointed out to him that the \$100,000 which we had discussed on the 11th (see Journal note) involved more money, but as he had committed himself

(continued next page)



to \$100,000 we would try to arrange the program on that basis. I also pointed out to him that the \$100,000 which he now proposed for the work this year involved parts of two fiscal years and would complicate the set-up and working arrangements. However, I appreciate that he cannot now go back to Olmstead and increase the amount, so I decided to not raise the issue further. Dr. Auchter said that when he raised the point with Olmstead about the quick action, Olmstead said if we got the program on his desk on the morning of the 15th, he would promise action on it within a week. I told him that we would get the program ready this afternoon and have it on his desk at 9 o'clock tomorrow morning. Immediately after Dr. Auchter left, I joined the group discussing the dehydration program and announced the necessity of preparing this project statement for Olmstead this afternoon and suggested that we immediately adjourn and that Chace, Paine, Hollingshead, Van Arsdell, and Swenson meet in the conference room and begin the preparation of the project and the breakdown. Mr. Donovan suggested that Miss Prienkert should sit in with the group because there was a question of an allotment of money and this was agreed to. The dehydration conference then dispersed with the agreement on the part of Mr. Chace that the project would be formulated and written and be available for consideration by Mr. Speh and me at 4 P. M. (NOTE: Refer to note entered under date January 11)

Conference in Dr. Auchter's office at 2 P. M.  
Present: Drs. Auchter, Woodbury, May, Swenson and Skinner and Mr. Speh

Dr. Auchter asked Dr. Skinner to explain the purposes set up for handling the dehydration work which had been under consideration and discussion between him and Dr. Skinner for some time. Dr. Skinner advised that in harmony with the plan which Dr. Auchter had suggested it was proposed to have all the dehydration work in the Bureau headed up with Mr. Speh as assistant Chief of the Bureau and that all of the dehydration work of the Western regional area will be headed up by Dr. Swenson, and the dehydration work of the eastern area which is yet to be defined will be headed up by someone to be selected later by Dr. Skinner and



Thursday, January 14

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Mr. Speh. Mr. Chace and his group and Dr. DeBds and his group will report directly to Dr. Swenson, who will, in turn, report directly to Mr. Speh. In addition to Mr. Speh's duties as assistant chief of the Bureau, Dr. Auchter wishes Mr. Speh to act as liaison officer in his office for all work on dehydration of <sup>fruits and</sup> ~~fruits and~~ <sup>vegetables</sup> ~~vegetables~~ in the Bureaus of Plant Industry and Home Economics, and this will include the home dehydration program in Home Economics. On all matters concerning dehydration Mr. Speh, as liaison officer of the ARA, will report directly to Dr. Woodbury, representing Dr. Auchter. Dr. Auchter further indicated that he desired to begin the regionalization of all of our work and that it was his desire that all of the West Coast activity on all projects and programs now conducted by the Los Angeles Laboratory, the San Francisco Laboratory and the Pullman Laboratory clear through Dr. Swenson, and through him to the Bureau administrative office in Washington. Dr. Auchter advised Dr. Skinner to make this announcement to the staff at once, but Dr. Skinner suggested that the notice be divided into two parts, announcing first the arrangement about dehydration and having that settled first before making the second announcement about the regionalization of the western activities. To this Dr. Auchter agreed, with the proviso that it be done rather promptly. Dr. Auchter called a meeting in his office at 10 o'clock on Monday with the regional directors, Mr. Speh and Dr. Skinner. \*

Meeting at 1:30 in Dr. Skinner's office with Price, Boyd, Donovan and Speh regarding approval for moving Bureau offices and laboratories to Beltsville. Dr. Skinner approved all necessary papers. ✓

\* OK.  
T.L.S.;  
1-15-43

675  
1/15/43

(continued next page)

January 14, 1943

C. F. Speh

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MEMORANDUM OF CONFERENCE

Held in Dr. O. E. May's office at 10:00 a.m.

Present: Dr. L. A. Monroe, Executive Director  
of one of the groups of O.P.R.D.,  
War Production Board.

Dr. May  
Mr. Speh

The purpose of this meeting was to discuss the possible contribution of the Northern Regional Research Laboratory to the work of Dr. Monroe's group in connection with motor fuels and motor fuels testing. It was agreed that Dr. Monroe will write a letter to Dr. Auchter setting forth what services he would desire of the Northern Laboratory.

Further, it was decided that Mr. Monroe will send to the Northern Laboratory for testing such products as might serve for motor fuels and the Northern Laboratory would evaluate them for that purpose. It was stated that as much notice as possible would be given before the samples were submitted.

Dr. Monroe agreed to advise us as specific instances of the development of new motor fuels from various countries came to his attention. If the production of these new fuels from raw materials available in the interested countries is involved, we will try to work in the investigation of such along with our other work as best we can.

Friday morning, January 15

Dr. Skinner instructed Mr. P. B. Jacobs to handle further contacts with Dr. Monroe. ✓

(Continued next page)

January 14, 1943C. F. Speh

Mr. L. N. Markwood of the Department of Commerce (Section concerned with oils and fats) called Mr. Speh today to learn whether the Bureau of Agricultural Chemistry and Engineering will be able to do some work on the extraction of oil from the jojoba seed, in order to meet requests for samples of this oil. Mr. Speh advised Mr. Markwood that unless this work was definitely linked with the war effort, the Bureau could not undertake work of this nature at this time.

Mr. Speh called Dr. Jamieson of this Bureau and related the nature of Mr. Markwood's call to him. Dr. Jamieson agreed with Mr. Speh in the position which he had taken and agreed to telephone Mr. Markwood and clear the matter.



CONFERENCE OF DEHYDRATION COMMITTEE

January 14, 1943 - 9:30 a. m.

Present: Dr. Skinner, C. F. Speh, E. M. Chace, R. S. Hollingshead, Dr. T. L. Swenson, H. A. Donovan, H. S. Paine, W. B. Van Arsdel.

MR. SPEH: What is the purpose of the conference? Is it to discuss and possibly adopt a program for the dehydration work from now until June 30th or from thereon for another year? What is the objective towards dehydration work? Is it to carry on research as well as do everything possible toward the goal of producing 460,000,000 lbs. of dehydrated vegetables?

DR. SKINNER: Our program primarily concerns research. We must keep in mind, however, the proper relation of the work we are doing with other activities in other units. What is our function? The service which we are asked to render, which is now in a very indefinite position, we can't do more than speculate about.

MR. HOLLINGSHEAD: We should get a general picture as to what is going on and what we know of existing changes. At the meeting of the T. V. A. held at Atlanta December 7th and 8th it was proposed to run four schools to teach extension workers and they in turn are to train those in charge of canning and other plants in the South which are handling dehydration.

Mr. Dodds is in charge of all processing work at the A. M. A., which includes dehydration. They are interested in getting into the research field and have built a dehydration unit. We have been requested to do the service work. This does not seem fair in view of the work we have done and are now at a point where we can get a good usable product.

DR. SKINNER: There are two elements to be considered. A program for dehydration was set up by Mr. Meal in the A. M. A.

Read a letter dated December 4 written to Dr. Auchter which Dr. Skinner termed as "rather scrappy." The letter finally went to the Secretary's Office.

Dodds asked that this Bureau do his service work. Suggested that Van Arsdell, Chace, Beavens, be detailed to his organization. This is very disturbing. Dr. Skinner suggested that if such an inspection service were set up, we should have sufficient funds, so that engineers and chemists could be trained as inspectors, the training to cover four to six weeks. This would require 25 people at a salary of \$3800. Plans to take this matter up with Dr. Auchter. The men proposed to be trained should be ready for this Spring's campaign.

MR. CHACE: Stated that the Dehydration Committee had outlined a similar program.

DR. SKINNER: Was called from the conference. When he returned he stated that the meeting would have to be adjourned shortly, because a real job, which would take precedence, was ahead of us. Mr. Olmstead, in a conference with Dr. Auchter, has tentatively agreed to the proposition to set up \$100,000 to be allotted to this Bureau to train engineers or chemists as inspectors. This amount was understood to cover three months of this fiscal year and through the processing season. (A period of 8 months). Dr. Skinner stated that it was imperative that immediate action be taken and suggested that a program be prepared which he could submit to Dr. Auchter this afternoon and on by him to Mr. Olmstead tomorrow morning (January 15th).

This report will involve the necessary inspection and operating service that the A. M. A. will have to give in selected plants. It is based on the employment of 25 people about the grade of \$3800. The directors of experiment stations have stated that they are willing

to release for detail quite a number of their personnel to help in this movement. We propose to select the men and train them. According to Dr. Auchter, Mr. Olmstead has agreed to this proposition.

DR. SKINNER: It should be clearly set forth that the goal of 460,000,000 lbs. of dehydrated vegetables and fruits should be set up for this calendar year. Then give an estimate as to how this \$100,000 is to be spent.

Twenty-five engineers or chemists are to be trained as inspectors, the men to be of a grade of \$3800 (on the basis of 8 months) \$71,250. \$1,000 for expenses for each man - \$25,000. This would leave less than \$5,000 for overhead. These figures of course are not final.

Stated that he would not favor taking these men from the station on a part yearly basis. The Bureau determines which men are to be selected. We hire the men and then transfer them to the operating outfit.

Requested that Messrs. Paine, Hollingshead, Chace, Swenson and Van Arsdell meet again at 1 o'clock this afternoon (January 14th) to prepare the report for Dr. Auchter and Mr. Olmstead, stressing that it be ready for transmittal tomorrow morning.

MR. DONOVAN: Suggested that Miss Preinkert be present at the 1 o'clock meeting this afternoon (January 14th).

The meeting adjourned at 11:00 a. m.



Friday, January 15, 1943

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Mr. P. B. Jacobs reported in from Peoria with regard to assembling data for alcohol hearings. He talked first with Dr. May who instructed him in what was needed. He is in Room 234-W (Tel. 4892) and will be here about ten days. It is understood that the hearings will not start until next week, and in the meantime Mr. Jacobs is to build up the case. Mr. Jacobs talked with Dr. Skinner who instructed him to personally interview Senator Langer of N.D. who has requested a conference with Dr. Skinner regarding fermentation tests on N. D. wheat. (Mrs. Jacobs will make appointment the first of next week)

In accordance with telephone arrangement with Dr. Skinner on Thursday afternoon, Mr. Woodbury sent over "ration units" on which it is requested that storage tests be run at intervals of 14 weeks. The transmittal letter for the "units" from Ralph C. Shilly, War Dept Consultant, and the units, were sent to Mr. Paine and Mr. Hollingshead for testing with a request from Dr. Skinner to expedite.

Correspondence re production of alcohol from N.D. wheat sent to P.B. Jacobs to handle, in consultation with Dr. May. (Congressmen Burdick & Lenke, and Senators Nye and Langer)

Mr. Ferris, representative of U.S. Sugar, contacted Dr. Skinner by telephone and was told that the contracts had cleared this office and had been sent to the Secretary for final approval.

Dr. Skinner and Mr. Donovan discussed the financial rearrangement of the funds allotted to dehydration and also the allotments to the Los Angeles, San Francisco and Pullman laboratories. It was decided that Mr. Donovan would prepare a letter to Dr. Swenson, advising him officially (a) of the reorganization ordered by Dr. Auchter; (b) allotment of the funds to each of the laboratories; (c) a statement showing <sup>how</sup> the justification for these funds would be handled in Washington. This letter will issue to Dr. Swenson with copies to Paine, Chace, DeEds, Veldhuis and also to Dr. Woodbury.

*Jan 17/43*  
A conference was arranged for Dr. Skinner, Speh, Paine, Chace and Donovan at which Dr. Skinner explained the

(continued next page)

Friday, January 15, 1943

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reorganization ordered by Dr. Auchter as it affected the dehydration program of the ARA. Dr. Skinner read the note from the Journal which was dictated immediately after his return from the conference in Dr. Auchter's office, January 14, reading only that portion which had to do with the dehydration work. The announcement was received with a great deal of distress and discouragement by Mr. Paine, but Mr. Chace looked at the matter much more philosophically and said that he was fully aware that the committee arrangement which had prevailed in the Bureau was not by any means the best type of administration and that so far as he was concerned ~~xxx~~ he could work with Dr. Swenson or anyone else, because after all, this is a war effort and he is willing to contribute his part.

The regionalization of the Western area was not discussed but Mr. Paine commented that such an action was likely to follow, but Dr. Skinner made no comment upon his observations.

In harmony with the promise to Dr. Auchter, the memorandum authorizing the allotment of \$100,000 from FDA for the dehydration inspection staff was completed about 10:30 this morning and immediately sent to Dr. Auchter for conference with Major Olmstead.

Material for Gove Hambidge on "New Uses for Agr. Products" sent over this afternoon. (Copy in Current File this office)



SATURDAY, January 16, 1943

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Dr. Skinner signed a Suspension of Pay for one day for Patrick Magee (ERRL) for failure to work on New Year's day (Jan. 1, 1943). Dr. Skinner states "Is a lie to be penalized by only one day's pay" /

Discussed with Paine the rearrangement of the program for the dehydration work and explained to him that I could not yet say what will be the arrangement in the East. As he has already been advised, all of the dehydration work in the Western area will be handled through Dr. Swenson. Paine was asked if he were interested in a transf. to the WRRL. He did not commit himself.

Conference with RSHollingshead. I explained the reorganization of the dehydration work in the Bureau and in the Department and pointed out to him that Dr. Swenson would be in charge of the work in the Western region. I told him I did not know yet what would be the set-up for the East but Mr. Speh or I would advise him further.

Conference with van Arsdell. I explained to him the reorganization of the dehydration work and that it involves Dr. Swenson being in complete charge of the work in the Western regional area; that the Dehydration Committee is discontinued and reports from the Western Regional area will be handled directly by Mr. Speh.

Dr. May came over and with Mr. Speh we discussed the disposition of the grain-alcohol matter raised by Congressman Lemke and Senator Langer. I told Dr. May that I had referred the entire correspondence to Mr. Jacobs and had instructed him to consult Dr. May and if he so desired to make the necessary contact with Senator Langer. Dr. May was very positive in his statement that the contact should be made by the Chief of the Bureau.

*North Dakota wheat*

*Letter to Lemke (Langer) See of*

Mr. Woodbury called to confirm the number of new plants which were used as a basis for the calculation of the data submitted to Major Olmstead. I told him that one way to check it was to assume that there were now about 100 plants in operation that are authorized and that their capacity was about 1,000,000 pounds. Therefore the goal of 4,000,000 pounds would mean about 400 plants. It was by this simple

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Saturday, January 16, 1943

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arithmetic one could arrive at the number of new plants being 300. I explained to him however that Mr. Chace was advocating larger plants, preferably 50 tons of raw material or more per day. If the larger plants were installed then the required goal would be obtained by a lesser number of plants. This statement was later confirmed by a conference with Mr. van Arsdell. ✓

Memo to Dr. Auchter re reorganization under dehydration program, with copy of memo to Dr. Swenson sent over this afternoon at 4 o'clock. Dr. Auchter is to approve memo to Swenson and return for issuance. ✓

Monday, January 18, 1943

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Conference with Lynch, Speh and Donovan. Mr. Speh raised the question about the work being done by Mr. Cheatham and who is responsible for its supervision. Dr. Skinner explained it was not clear to him just how Mr. Cheatham functions and that certainly since he has been Chief of the Bureau there has been very little contact by Mr. Cheatham with the Chief's office. Mr. Donovan explained in detail how the appointment was made and why, in the change in grade from 6 to 7, it was necessary to designate Mr. Cheatham as an advisor on the departmental level. Dr. Skinner commented that he did not see any reason why this should be considered inadvisable by the Administrator. Since the Administrator was acting in all cases as the Secretary's representative it can be interpreted that Mr. Cheatham is Dr. Auchter's advisor on any matter concerning which he has knowledge about cotton whether it is or is not within the purview of the program of BACE. I asked Mr. Speh to talk with Mr. Cheatham about the work he is doing and his contacts with Assistant Secretary Hill and others, and report back to me.

Mr. Gray discussed the question raised by Mr. Mervine regarding his participation in the County conferences in the State of Colorado discussing and demonstrating machinery, particularly that for the cultivation and harvesting of sugar beets. I pointed out to Mr. Gray the inadvisability of permitting any of our men to do more than a very limited amount of extension or demonstration work. He fully agreed with this but there are special reasons for this year, at least, why there should be some demonstration of the improved machinery for harvesting beets. He is to make me a written recommendation for approval.

Dr. R. H. Manley called to tell me about his summons to Washington to demonstrate the development of the Norepol. He showed me some very remarkable samples and as usual, gave me a very excellent picture of the work which he is supervising at the NRRL. He also told me that Dr. Coughill had asked him to discuss briefly Coughill's results in securing a new starch converting organism which produces butylene glycol and alcohol. The conversion factor is about the same as that for

(Continued next page)

Monday, January 18, 1943

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yeast. Dr. Cowgill secured this organism in a very ingenious way. He sent an inoculation flask containing a media to starch factories and asked them to collect from corners and crevices starch which had been exposed to inoculation of organisms which had found it possible to live on dry starch as a medium. From these numerous quarters he was able to isolate the one organism which produces butylene glycol and this is now, I understand, in commercial production. He also told about another development of Dr. Cowgill's in securing an organism which produces starch degradation products directly without any intermediate step of saccharification. The end product in this case is alcohol. It is too early however to evaluate the results which are as yet in a test-tube stage.



January 18, 1943

C. F. Speh

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Memorandum of Conference — 2:00 p.m., Office of  
C. F. Speh

*Dehydration*

In attendance: T. L. Swenson  
E. M. Chace  
W. B. Van Arsdell  
C. Y. Woodbury (ARA)  
H. S. Stevens  
C. F. Speh

- (1) Varieties of importance. States can contribute.
  - (a) Learn from Dr. Jardine what states are working on dehydration.
  - (b) Provide a design, B/M and specification for a simple standard cabinet drier to be used by States.
  - (c) Set up standard technique of dehydration and evaluation of results.
  - (d) Provide means of teaching these men dehydration technique.
- (2) Study must be given to design of dehydration, using coal as fuel
- (3) Bulk of program based on conversion of canneries. Canneries usually have too little boiler capacity.
- (4) Check with F.D.A. regarding collection of engineering data on present and potential dehydration plants.
- (5) In general follow form submitted by Dehydration Committee, "Program of Work, Period January 1, 1943 — June 30, 1944" — 1/7/43

Monday, January 18, 1943

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Conference in Dr. Auchter's office at 10 a.m.  
Present: Bureau Chiefs and Regional Directors

Dr. Auchter discussed the presentation of the budget items to the committee, stating that he had discussed the matter fully with Mr. Jump who thought that each person presenting a portion of the budget should be prepared to state what the overtime payments mean to each division, but this information was not to be vouchsafed except upon inquiry by the Chairman of the committee. Mr. Jump felt that we are not permitted to argue for an increase in the President's budget to cover an amount to offset the overtime payments; that it is entirely legitimate to do so if the question is raised. For instance, as to what, if any, cuts in the program or such items as moving out of Washington or to Beltsville, involving a reduction of work.

Dr. Auchter discussed the relationship which he hoped would prevail in the ARA, stating emphatically that all of the research work was now to be considered as one unit with a common purpose and common unity. He desired to impress upon Bureau Chiefs that in the setting up of new projects in their several programs they should see to it that before the matter was placed before him for approval that where any part of a project came within the purview of another Bureau of the ARA, even if only in a consulting capacity, it should be cleared by Bureau Chiefs or others making contact before being submitted to him for approval. He felt that all projects in the Bankhead-Jones Regional Laboratories and in the regional laboratories of the RACE should be cleared with agencies before being submitted to him for final approval. He announced that Dr. May would be the representative of the ARA in making all contacts with Quartermaster Departments of the Army under Col. Doriot, and the Procurement Division of the Navy under Admiral Carter. He also stated that he would like to have submitted to Dr. May for his files all contacts already in existence with the Army and Navy. - Dr. Auchter announced to the group the organization set-up for the handling of dehydration work and explained that he expected Mr. Speh to make all contacts with the several Bureaus and with the Directors of FDA AND FPA. In such capacity, he emphasized that Mr. Speh would be representing him.

*Adm memo Israel*



Monday, January 18, 1943

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[redacted] called and among other things, asked me if I knew about the criticism of the deal between Curley Byrd and Dr. Auchter in the development of land in the area of the Beltsville Research Center. I told him I had not heard anything about it and did not believe it. I told him I knew all about the purchase of the Sunnyside Farm by Byrd some 25 years ago and his turning over of this property to the University of Maryland for the horticultural farm, and that I knew he made nothing out of the transaction. I told Thom that Byrd advanced his own money, I thought about \$10,000, although it may not have been more than \$6000, to hold the option on the property and that he negotiated the sale, with the mortgage held, I thought, by one of the Hyattsville banks. Later the property was used by Dr. Auchter as the horticultural experimental farm of the University. Before Dr. Auchter came into the Department and before it was decided by the Department to develop the properties at Beltsville, it was decided by the University to sell the farm to the Agricultural Department, and if I remember correctly, the price agreed upon was \$105,000. An act of the Legislature which had been required to secure the property for the University, was amended so as to permit the sale of the property to the Government and that the University used the \$105,000 to buy the Hopkins Farm and the adjoining farm at White Oaks in Montgomery County, and that I was absolutely sure that neither Dr. Auchter in his capacity as head of a department of the University, nor Dr. Byrd, as President of the University, profited in any way from the deal. I told him that I did ~~not~~ know of Dr. Byrd's interest in the real estate development adjoining the University, but when he became President of the institution he divested himself of all business activities, including his directorship of a Hyattsville bank; that I did not know anything about Dr. Auchter's being involved in any real estate transaction in or near Beltsville, and that I did not give any credence whatever to the alleged rumor.



Tuesday, January 19, 1943

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MR. Teuton notified the Office of the Chief that the Southern Senators are a little bit disturbed because most of the industrial alcohol plants have been erected outside of the South. Mr. Teuton suggests that we be careful in giving out information on this subject so as not to embarrass the Secretary's office later on. Dr. Skinner advises that any such inquiries should be referred to Dr. May.

Conference at 10:30 A.M. -WWS, CFSpeh, TLSwenson and HADonovan (Discussed nutrition work, camouflage, etc.)

Conference at 2:00 P.M. with Skinner, Speh, Wells and Swenson on Pectin,\* Hemlock Bark\*\* and Protein

\*ERRL to work on pectin and apples (Proj. to be submitted by Wells)

\*\*Hemlock Bark work will be undertaken cooperatively by WRRL and ERRL

Tuesday, January 19, 1943

When, at 5:30 p.m. after Dr. Skinner had left for the day, Dr. Auchter called at the Bureau and talked with Mr. Speh and Mr. Donovan about releasing immediately three center benches for the Bureau of Plant Industry at Beltsville, he stated, in response to inquiry of Mr. Speh, that the Bureau would be unable to utilize the balance of \$70,000 from the "Removal of Arlington Farm" appropriation allotted to the Bureau for our moving expenses to Beltsville or for dismantling the equipment here in the South Building (Washington) or resetting it up in the North Building at Beltsville or for purchasing any equipment for the North Building. Dr. Auchter stated that among those with whom he had discussed the matter was the Solicitor, who, as we understand from Dr. Auchter, rendered this opinion. Dr. Auchter stated that he had not been concerned about making a prompt response to the Bureau's memo of October 17, 1942, in which the Bureau asked whether or not this money would be available for this purpose, because the move had not seemed to be imminent. Now, of course, as the move is being thrust on us rather immediately, Dr. Auchter recognized that the question had to be answered, and the above is the answer. Dr. Auchter did not indicate whether formal reply would be made by him to the Bureau's memorandum of October 17, 1942.

It was explained to Dr. Auchter again that this was a tremendously serious matter, as to pay for these expenses from regular funds of the Bureau would compel dismissal or furlough without pay of employees. It was stated to Dr. Auchter then that probably the last ~~best~~ thing the Bureau could do in order to reduce to a minimum the expense incident to moving would be to crowd its chemists into the 26 laboratory rooms in the North Building at Beltsville that are being left intact with laboratory equipment by the Bureau of Plant Industry. In this way the Bureau would only have to meet, for the moment, the actual cost of the hauling of its chemicals and supplies, and office furniture, etc.

Reference was made to the fact that the engineering divisions in the Bureau were not moving to Beltsville and Dr. Auchter suggested that we give him the amount of space which they are occupying in the South Building

here in Washington, having in mind the possibility of moving them to Beltsville perhaps in place of some of the laboratory people. In this way a certain amount of space could be made immediately available in the South Building for the Department's needs, and perhaps make it possible to delay moving some of the laboratories for a few months, or until July 1, when more money would be available as we would have the full year's appropriation to draw upon.

It should be stated that the Bureau has understood all along that the \$70,000 which it had available in its balance under the allotment from the "Removal of Arlington Farm" appropriation was for the specific purpose of getting our laboratories out to Beltsville and rehabilitating the building for our use. In the allotment of funds from the "Removal of Arlington Farm" appropriation to the Bureau of Agricultural Chemistry and Engineering in 1940, it was for three purposes - at least that was our understanding in the Bureau:

- (1) \$132,000 for Plans and Service Division to take care of all of the plans and designs, etc. of buildings that had to be erected at Beltsville in connection with the move;
- (2) Approximately \$50,000 for the erection of a building to replace our engineering building at Arlington Farm;
- (3) The balance or approximately \$70,000 for the necessary moving of our laboratories from the South Building in Washington to the North Building at Beltsville and rehabilitating the building for our use.

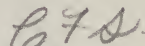
The Bureau had no question as to the right to use this fund for the third purpose until Mr. Snyder, in his memorandum of September 29, 1942, specifically raised the question as to the legality of the use of this fund for this purpose.

It was suggested to Dr. Auchter that if all our Bureau did was to pay for the actual moving of our chemicals, supplies, office furniture, etc. to Beltsville that



it would perhaps be a legitimate charge against whoever was to occupy the vacated space in Washington to pay for dismantling the rooms for their own use. Dr. Auchter said that he would explore that possibility.

  
H. A. D.

  
C. F. S.

Wednesday, January 20, 1943

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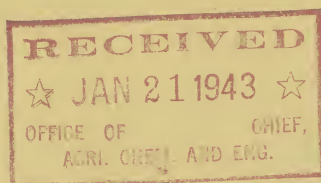
Mr. R. S. McBride called to advise Dr. Skinner of his contacts with Lynch, Herrick and Wells in regard to expanding the research program on food and feed products to meet the expected demand of the Quartermaster Corps for special information in meeting the Army needs. Mr. McBride asked to make an appointment with Dr. Swenson to discuss some possibility of expanding the programs of the several regional laboratories to meet the situation. McBride indicated that the QM Corps of the Army was prepared to finance a program, perhaps for as much as \$5,000,000 to begin immediately. He said he had talked the matter over with Dr. Auchter, Dr. May and Dr. Woodbury and he was somewhat apologetic about not having discussed the matter with me but said the urgency of the matter made it necessary for him to handle it with the greatest speed. He discussed the appointment of Auchter to head up the entire research program and said that an announcement would be made regarding the setup of the QM Corps of the Army, of which he and Dr. L.W. Bass are consultants. Immediately following the announcement made by Dr. Auchter, an announcement will be made giving the names of the group of advisors representing industry which is to be set up by him. He asked ~~me~~ to make an appointment with Dr. Swenson to see him at his office Thursday morning. His telephone is RE 0337. The appointment was made for 9 o'clock Thursday morning.

~~1/20/43~~  
Dr. Skinner.

This is satisfactory  
E. A. Richter

from Dr. Skinner

(Memo to Dr. Swenson, dated Jan. 15, 1943, re reorganization of the dehydration work of the Bureau and placing of responsibility for all work of the field laboratories of the Bureau at Los Angeles and San Francisco, California, and Pullman, Washington, under the direction of Dr. T. L. Swenson)



Passive  
for 600  
Unsuitable  
choice



In reference to memo under date of Dec. 23, 1942 of this journal (page 17) regarding inquiry from Mr. Salter of BPI concerning conference between the two bureaus to consider the annual report of the soybean activities, Dr. Skinner was advised by Dr. May that a conference had been held in Mr. Marston's office between Mr. Herrick, Mr. Morse, Mr. Carter, ~~Dr. Winters~~ and Mr. Marston. ~~ixxxx~~ Dr. Skinner was not advised of this conference, but Dr. May thinks the matter in question has been settled. ✓

Dr. May came to Dr. Skinner's office to discuss the conference with Mr. McBride in the Journal of the 20th. Dr. May explained the contacts with Mr. McBride and the development of the relations between ARA, the office of the Quartermaster General of the Army and the office of Admiral Carter of the Navy. Dr. May indicated surprise that Mr. McBride was attempting to outline any program and said that the matter had not yet reached that stage. I explained to Dr. May my concern about the development of a program by the laboratories or divisions with Mr. McBride or anyone else without the knowledge of the administrative offices of the Bureau. Dr. May agreed that this is a matter of grave concern. Several grave personal matters were also discussed with Dr. May and his advice was sought, especially about the contact with Mr. Voorhis, the new setup in the Western region, particularly the Pullman laboratory, and the rumors affecting Dr. Auchter, Dr. H. C. Byrd and Dr. Skinner. ✓

Dr. Auchter phoned to ask some questions about the letter to Swenson announcing the new setup in the Western regional area as it pertains to the dehydration activities. Dr. Auchter expressed some surprise at the small amount of money allotted to the Los Angeles Laboratory. I explained that the statement in the letter covered all of the work of the three laboratories in the Western area. Dr. Auchter seemed surprised to know that all of the staff of Mr. Chace was engaged in dehydration work. He approved the memo to Dr. Swenson and returned it by messenger in order that it might be delivered to Dr. Swenson before he leaves today. ✓

FBI Agent, Ronald V. Cochran (Re 2556) called to secure information about Dr. Viehover who is being ✓

considered for a position with the Government.

Conference - Woodbury, Speh, Swenson and Skinner regarding status of the frozen pack work and some of the proposals made by Mr. Diehl in his report of the Chicago Conference of the Food Processors. ✓

Dr. Woods of the University of California was advised by telephone that Dr. Skinner had approved the request for Dr. Brother to deliver the 24 lectures at the University of California. Dr. Skinner told him that the request would now be forwarded for the approval of the Civil Service Commission which is necessary in matters of this kind. Dr. Woods stated that the remuneration was at the rate of \$7 to \$10 per lecture. ✓

Dr. Swenson reported during lunch to Mr. Speh and Dr. Skinner his contact with McBride and advised that McBride indicated that perhaps as much as \$1,000,000 for each of the laboratories would be available from the Quartermaster Corps for carrying on necessary research work in food processing. ✓

Dr. Skinner called Dr. Winters in regard to the conference on the cooperative report about the soybean work, due December 1, from the BPI and BACE. Dr. Winters advised that the meeting had been held with Messrs. Herrick, Morse, Marston and Dr. May present but that he was not present. He said he would send me a copy of the minutes of the proceedings. 2

Dr. Skinner had a conference with Assistant Secretary Hill. Dr. Skinner showed him the samples of Norepol, of the methyl acrylate rubber, the Hemlock bark extraction samples, and the synthetic fiber produced from soybean protein. Dr. Skinner left with him small samples of the rubber substitute and the soybean fiber. ✓

Conference with Speh, Lynch and Cheatham about cotton for tire cord and cotton for paper. ✓

Dr. Auchter called and with Mr. Speh, Mr. Donovan and Dr. Skinner discussed the move of the agricultural engineering force to Beltsville immediately. The subject of the general move of the laboratories to Beltsville was explored and Dr. Skinner pointed out to Dr. Auchter the cost of the moving and what it would probably mean - either a release of personnel or a furlough without pay of a certain number in order to meet the expense. He also pointed out the need of specific authority to order the move. Dr. Skinner raised the question as to who would take the responsibility for the allotting of research funds without authority of Congress for the move, pointing out to him that some of the appropriation, especially that for Naval Stores was a specific financial item and that if five thousand or more dollars were allotted to moving, Dr. Skinner wonders who would accept the responsibility to defend the expenditure, if the question were raised in the Congress. He also raised the question of retaining in this building in the basement the animal laboratories and the work of Drs. Stevens and Jones. Dr. Skinner said that we have explored every possibility of taking care of this work at Beltsville and it seems impossible to do so. Dr. Skinner further told him we had to reach a conclusion - that if it was definitely decided that these two units would have to move, then he was prepared to recommend to him that the work be



discontinued. Both Mr. Donovan and Dr. Skinner explained to Dr. Auchter the obligation of this Bureau to adhere strictly to the budget as presented to the Committee. We discussed at length the objection of Messrs. Tarver and Cannon to the varying of the categories for travel, personnel, equipment, etc. as set up and approved by the Committee and pointed out that the other Bureaus were not working under the same restriction as BACE. Dr. Auchter said that if the case was as explained to him, then before we move it will be necessary to go to Judge Tarver, the Chairman of the Subcommittee and get a clearance for the expenditure, as Dr. Knight has done on previous occasions. The situation in regard to appointing a Chief of the Naval Stores Division was discussed and several points raised by Dr. Auchter were cleared. He said he expected to sign the appointment in a few days.

Mr. Paine started to discuss with Dr. Skinner some of the complications involved about the moving to Beltsville. He said disturbing rumors were going around, but when he undertook to discuss some action proposed by Mr. Walton and others, Dr. Skinner stopped him and said he did not want to hear it as it would place Dr. Skinner in a very awkward position. If something was done by any individual and Dr. Skinner had knowledge of it, he would be put in a very embarrassing position - that he could not countenance any action in a Bureau matter which was decided upon by Dr. Auchter in the best interests of the ARA and that he was not going to interpose any objection to moving to Beltsville, other than to impress upon Dr. Auchter that somebody must take the responsibility for the expenditure of the money and that Dr. Skinner had this morning discussed this matter with Dr. Auchter. Mr. Paine was in a very disagreeable mood and Dr. Skinner had to tell him the second time that he would not discuss any rumor that was prevalent in the Bureau nor the reaction of any individuals opposing the moving of the Bureau to Beltsville. Dr. Skinner explained to him that he did not propose to be put in the position of antagonizing something that had been decided by others before he became Chief.

Messrs. Gray, Miller and Boyd met with Speh, Donovan and Dr. Skinner regarding the moving of the engineering offices to the North Bldg. at Beltsville, which under

instructions, is to be consummated on or before January 30. It was explained to each of them how this was made necessary to meet the demands made upon Dr. Auchter for space in the South Bldg.

Saturday, January 23, 1943

Meeting called in Dr. Auchter's Office at 10:00 a.m.

Present: Dr. Auchter, Dr. May, Mr. Schoenhals, Dr. Winters,  
Mr. Speh, Mr. Lynch, Dr. Paine and Mr. Donovan

The meeting was called for the purpose of considering the proposed cooperative agreements with the United States Sugar Corporation. The details of the cooperative agreements were discussed and Dr. Auchter questioned the desirability of some of the features particularly Sections 7 and 11. It was decided to withhold action on the agreements until they were given further consideration. ✓



Mr. Ferris called about the sugar agreement, but as Mr. Speh had not yet reported to me, I told him I would call him back tomorrow and tell him what the situation is. *me*

Mr. Speh reported about the results of the meeting with the group called to Dr. Auchter's office Saturday morning to consider the contract with the U. S. Sugar Company. Mr. Speh stated that Dr. Auchter raised some question about the desirability of the patent clause in the agreement and with the service to be rendered. Nothing was decided and the matter was left in the condition of further processing.

Mr. Paine called about a letter from a Mr. Lovell of the Office of Strategic Services. Dr. Skinner told Mr. Paine that this seems to be an opportunity to do some good work, but as other bureaus might be involved, according to Dr. Auchter's instructions, he would have to submit it in written form for Dr. Auchter's consideration, and as Dr. Skinner understands it, it will go directly to Dr. May who is making all contacts about research with the military services. Mr. Paine pointed out the details involved in doing this, but he was advised that this is the plan of operation set up by Dr. Auchter to avoid the same request being handled by different bureaus independently. Mr. Paine took the material and said he would prepare a written statement which I agreed to pass immediately on to Dr. Auchter. *sent - copy*

At 12:30, Dr. Skinner listened to the radio dialogue regarding the development of Norepol. The program was very well rendered.

Mr. Groggins called and explained the setup of the new food production administration under Gov. Townsend. He said that the work which he had been heading up heretofore was to be ~~forwards~~ divided into three sections and he was uncertain as to what his position would be. He stated that from many sources, the OAWR section on commodities which he had built up, had been very highly commended and that it had worked in a very orderly and satisfactory manner and he seemed a bit discouraged that his organization

was now to be broken up in <sup>to</sup> three parts:

Group 1 is to be called "Requirements and Program" and is to be headed up by David Meeker. This group is to deal with factual matter, most of which Groggins has heretofore obtained from this Bureau and the Bureaus of Animal and Plant Industry.

Group 2 is to be designated as "Distribution" and is to be headed up by Mr. Niedler.

Group 3 is to be "Production Allocation", the head of which has not yet been named, but Gov. Townsend told Mr. Groggins to carry on until he could reach a decision about the group leader. Mr. Groggins feels that he does not care to stay with the organization any longer and asked that a place be made for him in the BACE. He said Dr. Knight had indicated to him when he was first assigned to the new work with *Chester Davis* that there would always be a place for him when he wanted to return.

I presume that is true, of course, if he wants to return to the ERRL. It was explained to Mr. Groggins that conditions in the Bureau are so uncertain <sup>regarding</sup> about its financial future that no commitment could be made at this time. Dr. Skinner pointed out the thirty odd thousand dollar burden we would have to meet in the upkeep of the building at Beltsville, that it would take as yet an unknown amount to meet the overtime payments, and that <sup>guides for the</sup> ~~the~~ actual move to Beltsville had to be provided from somewhere.

Dr. Skinner can see no other way but that some Bureau personnel will have to be released and that it is not very consistent to attempt to persuade Dr.

Auchter to add new positions on the one hand, while it is necessary to recommend dropping of personnel on the other. It was pointed out to Mr. Groggins how the work in the Office of the Chief had increased and how three men were trying to carry the load formerly carried by five. He was told that there was room for him and a desire to have him in the Chief's office, but that no commitments could be made at this time.



Dr. Auchter called at 2 P. M. and discussed with Mr. Donovan and Dr. Skinner the advisability of transferring the Division of Plans and Service to Mr. Thatcher. Dr. Skinner expressed his approval of the plan, if it could be consummated without the Plans and Service and other parts of Mr. Thatcher's unit being transferred to Beltsville and occupying part of the North Bldg. Such an arrangement would be very unsatisfactory to the Bureau. Dr. Auchter made the suggestion of the transfer because he felt it was better to take that action now than after we were moved to Beltsville because once having moved there we might find it difficult if the transfer was made later to get the division out of the building. Dr. Auchter raised the question of a transfer of the information units to his office. Dr. S pointed out how the transfer of Mr. Teuton to work with Mr. Hambidge would seriously hamper the work of this Bureau. Dr. Skinner told Dr. Auchter with what apprehension he viewed the raiding of the old bureaus by the new organizations which were set up to do specific jobs. Dr. Skinner said he did not believe the Secretary could appreciate just what this would mean and little was to be gained except the shuffling around. Dr. Skinner pointed out if this Bureau were to lose Mr. Speh, Mr. Donovan and Mr. Teuton, so far as he was concerned, he might as well quit. Dr. Auchter pointed out that the consolidation was really to conserve the information setup because Mr. Morse Salisbury had been instructed to expand his unit to take care of the new demands on the Department. Dr. Skinner pointed out he could see this coming, and the administrative pressure became very apparent and that men like Donovan and Spencer would be withdrawn from the older bureaus with great detriment to the work. Dr. Skinner expressed the hope that this could be brought specifically to the attention of the Secretary because after all it was the Department which would suffer by this raiding of the older agencies. He pointed out to Dr. Auchter the memorandum from the President which said this was not to be done between departments. Dr. Skinner observed it was just as disastrous if the raiding was carried on within the Department as if ~~it was~~ carried on without.



Memorandum of Conference

Subject: Proposed Project Entitled "Emergency Investigation of Preservation of Poultry Meat and Poultry Byproducts"

Present: Dr. E. C. Auchter, ARA  
Dr. Louise Stanley, HHE  
Dr. Hazel K. Stiebeling, HHE  
Dr. Henry W. Marston, ~~ARA~~ ARA  
Dr. O. E. May, ARA  
Dr. T. C. Byerly, BAI  
Dr. Hugh C. McPhee, BAI  
Mr. H. K. Smoot, ARA (Budget Office)  
Mr. C. F. Speh, BACE

The conference was held at 3:00 p.m. in Dr. Auchter's office for the purpose of discussing the above project. Originally the request for the funds for this project carried the figure of \$66,000. This has now been reduced to \$36,000. The production goal calls for an increase of poultry meat of one billion pounds for the year. It seems that Dr. Goresline and Mr. Stuart had attended a previous conference on this subject.

It was agreed, subject to the approval of Dr. Skinner, that Mr. Stuart would give 20 percent of his time, or an amount equivalent to the time which he has been giving, to dehydration of meat. It was proposed to assign to this work an Assistant Bacteriologist, Grade P-2, at \$2600 and a laboratory helper at \$1200. Mr. Noel will give 1/2 of his time to the work. Starting immediately he will give such time as he can spare to serving in an advisory capacity and after June 30 to continue to give the time.

It is further proposed to establish a <sup>poultry</sup> committee of three, one member from BAI, one from HHE and the third from the BACE. Dr. Skinner will suggest the member of the staff of BACE to serve on this committee. The function of this committee will be policy planning and review of work. Dr. Marston of ARA will serve as coordinator of work.

Dr. Auchter called to see Dr. Skinner about 9:30. He discussed at some length the rearrangements which he was proposing in the administrative setup of the Bureau, especially the relationship of the work in Washington with the Regional Laboratories and the proposed transfer of some of the activities in this Bureau to other Bureaus of the Department. Dr. Auchter stated explicitly that he wishes the matter kept very confidential and first said that he did not care to have Dr. Skinner mention it to any of his colleagues, but later, when he began to discuss some of the details, especially the money involved, Dr. Skinner pointed out it would be impossible to get this information without talking to both Mr. Speh and Mr. Donovan. Dr. Auchter then agreed it might be advisable to call each of them in, but they must be bound to complete secrecy in the matter. He stated that not even Dr. May or the other personnel in his unit knew of the proposed changes and he did not want it discussed with any of them. Mr. Speh and Mr. Donovan came in and ~~was~~ discussed the matter until 10:30 when Dr. Auchter left. Mr. Speh, Mr. Donovan and Dr. Skinner continued the discussion until after twelve o'clock. Mr. Donovan made a confidential report of the results of the discussion.

Mr. Ferris called Dr. Skinner about the status of the agreements with the U. S. Sugar Company. Dr. Skinner told him that the matter was in the Secretary's office and he was advised to say that it was processed. Mr. Ferris asked if it would be advisable for him to have somebody contact the Secretary's office and Dr. Skinner told him he could give him no advice in the matter. Mr. Ferris stated that two of their contacts on the hill were very close to Assistant Secretary Hill and that he thought either of them would be willing to contact Mr. Hill with the idea of hastening consideration of the proposed memorandum of agreement. Dr. Skinner told Mr. Ferris that he could not advise him in the matter and explained that he did not wish to be in the position of "sicking ~~on~~" anyone <sup>on</sup> to Mr. Hill or ~~to~~ the Secretary's office. Mr. Ferris<sup>A</sup> said he could well understand.

Dr. Woodbury called about the data on chopped whole wheat for making bread. Mr. Speh came in on the

Tuesday, January 26, 1943

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wire and advised Dr. Woodbury that he would find out from LeClerc what additional information is available. 2

Dr. Skinner went to Dr. Auchter's office in response to a request by him and discussed a personal matter in relation to Dr. H. C. Byrd at the University of Maryland.



Wednesday, January 27, 1943

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Memo to Dr. Auchter suggesting meetings with Agr.  
Experiment Stations Relations Committees (Directors  
of Laboratories and Directors of Expt. Stations)

Northern Area  
Southern Area  
Eastern Area  
Western Area

April 23-23

May 12-13

March 31-April 1 or May 26-7

April 14-15

Saturday, January 30C. F. Speh

Mr. Speh discussed by long-distance telephone with Dr. Hilbert the anonymous letter which has been received at the Northern Laboratory concerning the alleged misbehavior of the Argentine chemists stationed at the Northern Laboratory. Dr. Hilbert stated that contrary to the statement in the memorandum from Miss Mohagen to Mr. Donovan, he had not discussed the matter with the students.

Mr. Speh talked to Dr. Skinner and to Dr. Price. It was Dr. Skinner's feeling that Dr. Price should go to Peoria to investigate the matter. However, it was later decided that this was not the best procedure at this time.

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Mr. Speh advised Dr. Hilbert that he was forwarding by mail that day correspondence which has been received from Dr. Auchter relative to research on the recovery of protein feed from distillery slops. In his memorandum to Dr. Skinner, Dr. Auchter asks for an intensification of effort along these lines. The material is being sent to Dr. Hilbert in order that he may prepare a statement reporting the present status of this work at the Northern Laboratory as well as the proposed program of work in connection with the recovery of protein feed from distillery slops.

*sent to Dr H 7-7/42 ✓*

February  
1943



Bureau Chief's Meeting at 9:30

Dr. Auchter discussed with the Bureau Chiefs the necessity for having a contact man for specific research inquiries. He said it was impossible for him personally to handle all the inquiries and that he did not see that it was necessary for him to do so. He announced that all matters having to do with dairy products would be handled by O. E. Reed of the BDI; all matter having to do with insecticides, fungicides and entomological questions (~~also fertilizers~~) would be handled by Fracker; all matters concerning foods would be handled by Woodbury; all matters of animal nutrition by McPhee; all matters of foreign foods by Stanley; all matters in regard to chemistry and chemicals by May; and engineering matters by Boyd. A memorandum will be transmitted to all the Bureaus regarding this matter. *SLA memo 2-3-43*

Dr. Auchter also discussed at some length the lack of uniformity in vitamin data and the effect of cooking upon the vitamin content of fruits and vegetables and meat. He read part of an article in the Food Reporter which seemed to criticize a statement by the Secretary regarding knowledge about the loss of vitamins in cooking. Dr. Stiebling was asked to bring in a report at the next meeting of the exact status of our knowledge regarding the amount of vitamin C and B<sub>1</sub> retained in cooked foods.

Dr. Auchter asked the Bureau Chiefs to bring to the attention of the scientific members of each staff his desire to call to the attention of the Secretary ideas for improving the work of the Department and what might be undertaken to further the activities of the Secretary in his job as Food Administrator. Dr. Auchter pointed out that there were something over 2500 people in the Department with scientific training and he did not think it was too much to expect at least one new idea per day from such a group. He asked that these ideas be transmitted by Bureau Chiefs to Mr. Fracker who would adjust them and bring them up for discussion at some meeting of the Bureau Chiefs.

After the meeting, Dr. Skinner suggested to Dr. Auchter

the desirability of writing a memorandum to Dean Johnson and Dean Hutchinson about the new setup in regard to the laboratories of the Western regional area, namely San Francisco, Pullman and Los Angeles, and Dr. Auchter said such a memorandum should be written, either for his signature or for Dr. Skinner's signature as Chief of the Bureau, - there really being no preference in this regard. *-accomplished*

Dr. Auchter also requested a list of all cooperative work of each Bureau with other bureaus and with other agencies. He said that the material submitted for the cooperation with war agencies had been very instructive and he thought it should be extended to all cooperation or aid given by each Bureau to any other unit. 2

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Mr. Teuton, Mr. Speh and Dr. Skinner discussed the proposed visit of the National Council of Peanut Growers to the Bureau on Wednesday morning. It is expected that Dr. Skinner and Mr. Speh will meet them and tell them something of the program. ✓

Mr. Groggins called again about the possibility of him returning to the Bureau. Dr. Skinner told him that he had discussed the matter with Dr. Auchter and it did not seem to be received by him with favor. Dr. Skinner told Groggins that he knew very well of the proposed arrangements with Dr. Knight when Groggins was first detailed to work with Chester Davis but that he was in doubt now whether he could carry through the idea which Dr. Knight had of attaching him to the Office of the Chief as a general advisor. Dr. Skinner told him that he had discussed with Dr. Auchter the load that this office is now carrying, with three men - Skinner, Speh and Donovan - a load which was carried in Dr. Knight's time by five men. Groggins was told that Dr. Skinner did not know what were the plans of Dr. Auchter and that he was not sure but what Dr. Auchter thought that the Bureau under Dr. Knight was over-staffed. He was told that Dr. Auchter made no such comment to Dr. Skinner, but that Dr. Skinner knew that such comment was made in the personnel office on one previous occasion. Mr. Groggins asked for

advice about contacting Dr. Auchter and was told by Dr. Skinner he would have to use his own judgment in the matter. Dr. Skinner told him that so far as he could tell now the only available opening for him was to return to the position which he formerly held in the ERRL. Mr. Groggins expressed the hope that he might be given some other assignment. He feels that the knowledge and experience which he has acquired in the last two years could be put to better advantage for the Bureau than if he returns to the ERRL.



February 2, 1943C. F. Speh

Mr. Speh arranged to have Mr. A. O. White of General Electric Company called to advise him that he had contacted Mr. J. O. Reed and that Monday, February 8, would be a satisfactory date for the conference to be held in Mr. Speh's office relative to dehydration equipment. Mr. White had called Mr. Speh previously stating that Mr. F. W. McChesney would like to come to Washington to talk to Mr. Speh. [Mr. McChesney is of the Industrial Department of General Electric, stationed in Schenectady, and Chairman of a Committee established by that Company for the determination of the electrical needs of the dehydration program of the nation.] Mr. Speh also arranged to have Mr. White advised of the manner in which he could communicate with Colonel Paul F. Logan of the Quartermaster Corps. Mr. McChesney will be interested in contacting him while in Washington.

As a result of this call Mr. White called back this afternoon and advised that Mr. McChesney will be in Washington on Monday and at 10:00 a.m. he, Mr. White and Mr. C. E. Miller of General Electric Company, Schenectady, will come to Mr. Speh's office. Mr. Reed was notified of this hour and Mr. Speh will contact Mr. Hollingshead to determine whether he will be able to attend this conference.

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Mr. Von Loesecke advised Mr. Speh that he had a gentleman from Lend-Lease coming over at 2:00, bringing with him a man who is interested in dehydration by high vacuum and low temperatures. Also, a gentleman from Mr. Wyckoff's office would sit in to handle the fiscal policies. He asked Mr. Speh if he would not like to attend. Mr. Speh said that he would not, but asked to have Mr. J. O. Reed attend. However, we were not able to locate Mr. Reed.

Dr. Winters called about the telephone conference with Mr. James Howington of the Smaller War Plants Corp. Div. of WPB who called regarding the request of a firm for a loan to construct a plant in North Carolina to produce a new product which represents a chemical problem. Mr. Howington asked Dr. Skinner to grant permission for Dr. Lee Smith of the ERRL to visit a powder plant in New York City to inspect the type of material which is to be produced in the proposed plant in N.C. Dr. Skinner referred Mr. Howington to Dr. May and Dr. Winters. When Dr. Wells came in later in the day, the matter was discussed with Dr. Winters and it was decided that he would ask Mr. Howington for a written statement showing what was desired by him and by the company which he was seeking to aid.

Mr. Senseman came in to discuss with Dr. Skinner the situation in regard to Mr. Ralph Frey. <sup>+</sup> 2

Mr. Gray came in to discuss the verbal request from BEW to send an engineer to Mexico to determine if machinery could be developed in that country to harvest the castor bean. He said that a formal request would come from BEW. Mr. Gray announced that he is moving to Beltsville tomorrow and discuss<sup>ed</sup> some of the difficulties of operating in the situation in which they would be placed after the moving is consummated.

February 3, 1943.

C. F. Speh

Theodore Swan and Mr. Scott of Swan Company, Birmingham, Alabama, called to discuss possible use of equipment of that company for war purposes. Mr. Speh referred them to Dr. Goldblatt of Naval Stores and Mr. Groggins of OAWR.

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Mr. Speh talked to Mr. Lynch regarding estimates for goldenrod rubber work for 1943 and 1944.

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Mr. Speh requested Mr. Senseman to prepare a statement for Dr. Winters on the Bureau's work on rotproofing of fabrics. This is to be used by Dr. Winters and Dr. May in answering inquiry from the Quartermaster Corps.

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February 4, 1943

C. F. Spoh

Mr. Spoh called Dr. Hilbert by long-distance telephone. They discussed the following subjects.

(1) Dr. Prutton. Dr. Hilbert advised that Dr. Prutton is still with the Case Institute of Applied Science. Yesterday they received a wire from Dr. Prutton stating that he was "postponing his trip to this laboratory" (Northern). Dr. Hilbert advised that he is sending a copy to Washington. - *Rec'd*

(2) Wheat Surplus. Dr. Hilbert advised that he is going to submit a proposed adjustment of distribution of funds between corn and wheat studies. This statement will be sent in as soon as possible in the event that this question is asked in the hearings.

(3) Estimate on butadiene plant. Mr. Spoh read Dr. May's memorandum on this subject. Dr. Hilbert advised that his statement should have included the remark that the estimates given still stand. However, he will be prepared to submit a statement on short notice.

(4) Argentine Students and report of indiscreet conduct. Dr. Hilbert advised that anonymous letter represented opinion of very small minority. He checked the statement with the manager of the hotel and found that any "playing around" occurred only on Saturday night, and that boys appeared for work in good condition on Monday morning. It is felt that the reports were exaggerated. The students were seen in the cocktail lounge of the Jefferson, and once or twice became a little loud, through joviality. Dr. Hilbert advised that he would talk to the students. *Rept received 7/15/43*

(5) Schenley matter relative to reports from butadiene pool. Mr. Spoh told Dr. Hilbert about the proposed visit of Mr. Norman Morrison today at 4:00. Mr. Morrison is an attorney retained by the Schenley people.

February 4, 1943

Continued

C. F. Speh

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Dr. Hilbert advised that complete sets of the reports compiled from the butadiene pools have been distributed to the cooperators.

(6) Dr. Hilbert asked Mr. Speh about the list of names sent to the President for deferment. Mr. Speh told Dr. Hilbert that a wire is prepared for him, which will issue as soon as they receive a statement substantiating the information in writing.

~~xxxx~~ from  
(7) Relative to the transfer of money ~~from~~ equipment and from supply, Dr. Hilbert advised that they wished to take equipment money for over-time and charge a small amount to supply.

(8) Dr. Hilbert stated that Dr. Manley has an attractive offer from outside. Mr. Shollenberger, too, has been approached by F.D.A. Hilbert does not object to the transfer.

(9) Mr. Speh told Dr. Hilbert about Harold Robert Hay who is in the office and has been for a few days. He appears to be seeking another position.



The peanut group held a meeting in Room 3046. Mr. Speh and Drs. Jones, Stevens and LeClerc attended the meeting. ✓

Dr. Skinner discussed with Dr. Browne a proposal to have Dr. Browne transferred to the active list and discussed ✓  
Dr. Auchter's reaction to the proposal. Dr. Skinner told Dr. Browne he would advise him if anything further developed.

Dr. Balls and Dr. Skinner discussed the condition of the Enzyme Div. budget and the position the Division would be in if compelled to pay the expenses for moving to Beltsville. Dr. Balls is anxious to know if there is any possibility of his work remaining in the South Bldg. Dr. Skinner advised him that he did not know what the final decision would be but that it was his expectation that all of the laboratories would be moved out of the South Bldg.

W. Parker Jones called and asked permission to interview Dr. Mottern regarding the patent secured by Mottern, Blanck, Swenson and Nelson on the deaeration of fruit ✓  
products. He was told it would be all right for him to discuss the matter with Mottern. When he learned that it ~~was~~ possible Dr. Mottern ~~was~~ now at Albany, he said he would send a night letter to his associate attorneys in San Francisco asking them to contact Drs. Mottern and Swenson in Albany. In case this cannot be done, Mr. Jones asked that he might contact Dr. Mottern on his return trip to Philadelphia, provided he stopped enroute to Washington. He was told arrangements might be made for this conference. *Mottern enquired*

*J. H. D. Resources Bldg.*

Mr. Fred J. Fredrickson called to discuss the desirability of producing alcohol from damaged wheat.



Dr. Skinner showed to Dr. Balls a copy of a memorandum which he sent to Dr. Swenson about Mr. Chace. ✓

Dr. Skinner called Mr. Jack about the inquiry regarding the transfer of Mrs. Dale and advised him that he was opposed to transfers on general principles, and that no transfers were to be considered or no commitments were to be made without either the approval of Mr. Speh or Dr. Skinner. ✓

In his memorandum of January 6 regarding release of personnel, to varying periods, to outside agencies, Dr. Auchter says:

"\* \*we must realize our research responsibilities and not weaken our own staff where we are conducting research of importance in connection with the war effort. \* \* \* In specific cases where our research responsibilities are requested by outside agencies, I believe it should be pointed out that to acquiesce in the request would seriously weaken research important to the war effort. If, following such a statement, the other agency still insists on a transfer, such cases should be brought to my attention and where necessary I will bring such cases to the attention of the Secretary's Office for consideration."

Monday, February 8, 1943

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Dr. Skinner discussed with Speh, Stevens, Paine and Swift the proposed meeting of the Cottonseed Fellowship Committee. Mr. Barrow must be advised in a very few days. Mr. Swift stated that his report could be ready by March 15 if it were determined to hold a meeting in Memphis on March 24 or March 30, as suggested. The conference adjourned with the determination that the matter would be settled by Dr. Skinner, Mr. Speh and Dr. Stevens tomorrow. - *W. B. Barrow*

Dr. May came to Dr. Skinner's office to discuss the approval of the proposed wheat alcohol meeting at Peoria as suggested in wire from Dr. Hilbert. Dr. May approved the meeting and a wire was accordingly sent to Hilbert. \* Numerous matters were discussed with Dr. May including the setup with FPA, with special reference as to how it affected Groggins. The appointment of Dr. Blanck in Colonel Doriot's office was also discussed and *May* was told about the proposal to transfer Mrs. Dale to be Dr. Blanck's secretary, which Dr. Skinner had opposed. The general policy of approval of requests for transfers was discussed and Dr. Skinner called attention to the memoranda from Dr. Skinner to Dr. Auchter and Dr. Auchter's reply regarding the proposed transfer of men from the WRRRL to the University of California. Dr. May expressed the opinion that Dr. Auchter was in complete accord with the position that we *should* not, except under very special occasions, agree to transfer of personnel.

\* meeting scheduled for Feb. 25 & 26

Mr. Paine discussed with Dr. Skinner the effect of operating costs at Beltsville if his division were moved there. Dr. Skinner explained to Mr. Paine the Bureau's decision to hold recommendations for replacements and for reallocations pending some decision regarding the allotment of money for meeting the overtime pay requirement. Mr. Paine commented at length upon the disturbed condition of the personnel because of the many rumors which were going around the Bureau about moving to Beltsville and the possibility of persons losing their jobs. Mr. Paine stated that never in his experience had he seen the morale of the staff at such a distressingly low level. He stated that he proposed to stay with the situation as long as he could possibly do so, but that he would like to say emphatically that all his plans had been made and that he would make his final decision at some opportune time. Dr. Skinner did not discuss with him any phase of reorganization and especially avoided raising the issue which he had discussed with Dr. Auchter about the situation at New Orleans.

Mr. Donovan returned today and he, Mr. Speh and Dr. Stevens discussed at some length the matters which had transpired during Mr. Donovan's absence. Especial attention was given to the confidential figures which had been prepared and submitted to the office of ADR.

Dr. Wells was here for his weekly visit and discussed the visit of Dr. Smith to New York at the request of Mr. Howington (see page 78). Dr. May had advised that the matter had been taken up with Dr. Auchter and it was cleared for Dr. Smith to make the inspection requested. Dr. Wells was to communicate immediately with Dr. Smith and advise him of the arrangement for him to report on the 10th, in New York. *implemented*

The situation in regard to Dr. Pettijohn was discussed by Dr. Skinner with Dr. May and Mr. Donovan came in on the phone to explain the delay caused by the communication sent in by Dr. Coghill. Dr. Skinner advised Dr. May, after his statement of the case, that the approval would immediately go forward allocating Dr. Pettijohn in P-3. This, he explained to Dr. May, would have to be considered an exception to the agreement reached by the Directors when they were in Washington



to hold all reallocations and new appointments pending a decision on the allotment of funds to meet the overtime pay requirements. It was also decided that Mr. Donovan should write a letter to Dr. Hilbert, including a copy of his memorandum to Dr. Skinner, and making mention of the undesirable memorandum written by Dr. Coghill regarding this reallocation. This is not the first offensive memorandum written by Dr. Coghill.

February 9, 1943C. F. Speh

The Bureau was requested by Mr. Paine to make a decision as to whether Mr. Ralph M. Kingsbury should serve as a witness for the O.P.A. in Kansas City on Monday, February 15, in the case of the O.P.A. versus Mars Candy Company. The Department regulations indicate that the decision rests with the Chief of the Bureau.

The problem was discussed with Mr. Ralph F. Koebel of the Office of the Solicitor who indicated that he could see no objection to this decision. Mr. Speh discussed the matter further with Dr. Woodbury and Mr. Cardon of APA, both of whom thought that the Bureau should allow Mr. Kingsbury to appear at the trial. Dr. Skinner concurred in the opinion.

Mr. Koebel suggested that we ask Mr. Kingsbury to make the following statement in order to relieve the Bureau of any responsibility.

"I appear here purely as an expert witness and am not to be asked to reveal any official information acquired as a result of my employment with the Department of Agriculture."

Dr. Skinner discussed with Dr. Price and Mr. Donovan the occupancy of space in the several field laboratories. Dr. Skinner pointed out that in a discussion last week with Dr. Auchter the latter intimated that a survey was being made of all Government occupancy of space outside of Washington and it was his understanding that the formal setup in the memorandum of October 5, 1938, from Secretary Wallace, would likely be applied to all of our buildings. Dr. Price and Mr. Donovan were to discuss with Miss Prienkert a survey of the conditions as they exist and the preparation of floor plans showing the space in the several laboratories and then to prepare a statement showing how near we are to the formula above referred to. This formula is as follows:

Bureau Chief	480 sq. ft. (2 bays)
Associate Chief or First Asst. Chief	480 sq. ft. (2 bays)
Assistant Chief	240 sq. ft. (1 bay)
Business Manager	240 sq. ft. (1 bay)
Division Chief	240 sq. ft. (1 bay)
Secretary to Bur. Chief	240 sq. ft. (1 bay)
Secretary to Asso. Chief	240 sq. ft. (1 bay)
Secretary to Asst. Chief	240 sq. ft. (1 bay)
Secretary to Business Mgr.	240 sq. ft. (1 bay)
Secretary to Division Chief	120 sq. ft. (1/2 bay)
Section Chief	120 sq. ft. (1/2 bay)
Secretary to Sec. Chief	120 sq. ft. (1/2 bay)
Special Worker	120 to 240 sq. ft. (1/2 to 1 bay)
Draftsman	100 sq. ft.
General clerical worker	70 to 100 sq. ft.
Statistical Worker	70 sq. ft.
Pool stenographer or typist	70 sq. ft.
Auditor	70 sq. ft.

Additional space to provide for specialized office equipment or appliances may be assigned upon demonstrated need.



Dr. May called at 2 P. M. to discuss several matters of policy, one was a memorandum from L. A. Wheeler requesting that Mr. Fessenden be assigned to instruct or advise representatives of certain South American or Central American countries regarding plant preservation. It was agreed that Dr. May would discuss the matter further with Wheeler to determine just what was instigating this effort. Mr. Speh came in and after some discussion by Dr. May, Mr. Speh and Dr. Skinner it was decided to call Dr. Hilbert regarding the request for the transfer of Shollenberger. This was done and Dr. Hilbert is to make a report in the next few days. Mr. Speh then immediately called Dr. Black of FPA and told him that as soon as word is received from Dr. Hilbert we shall discuss the Shollenberger transfer further with him. Dr. Skinner expressed his opposition to our agreeing to raids on our scientific and professional staff and told Dr. May what he had stated to Dr. Auchter a few days before that so far as he and Dr. Skinner were concerned, the raid which depleted our staff is just as bad if from within as from without. So far as he was concerned it made little difference. Dr. Hilbert said that he knew of no one who could take Mr. Shollenberger's place, but that if the detail could be limited to one year, perhaps the NRRL could get along with Mr. Jacobs handling part of the work, but that he was loathe to consider any such thing on a permanent basis.

Dr. May explained it was not his intention for Dr. Jones to make the report on the proteins of the castor bean directly to him. Dr. May seemed to be impressed by the situation. Dr. Skinner remarked that there is no objection to the report being made directly but that he did object to such reports being made by Division Chiefs without the Chief of the Bureau being advised of the matter, and pointed out to Dr. May that this had been done in several instances. Dr. May agreed this was improper.

Mr. Paine raised the question of Dr. LeClerc attending a meeting at Norfolk, by invitation, with expenses paid. It is indicated that Dr. LeClerc is to discuss increasing the production and use of soybeans. It was agreed that this should be referred to ARA for approval. This was done.

Dr. Skinner called Dr. Byrd at the University of Maryland and discussed the report about the transfer of land at Beltsville. Dr. Byrd stated emphatically that he knew nothing about it and that the records of the board had been carefully investigated several years ago by a representative of the Baltimore Sun, and that no cause for criticism was found.

J. O. Reed discussed with Dr. Skinner the effort being made by Mr. Wyckoff and others of FDA to secure Reed's transfer to that unit to head up the engineering supervision of dehydration plants. Dr. Skinner explained to Reed the disinclination of this Bureau and of the Director of ARA to agree to such transfers.

Dr. Skinner called Dr. Hilbert regarding the telephone inquiry of Dr. Richards about Dr. Coghill's trip. Hilbert and Coghill explained the necessity for Coghill being in Peoria on the 25th and 26th for the wheat alcohol conference, and also that he had to be in Milwaukee on the 19th for a conference. It seems inadvisable to make the trip to Washington on the 15th because of the possible interference with the Milwaukee engagement. Later the matter was discussed with Dr. Richards and he was advised it seemed unwise to alter the original plans for Coghill to leave Peoria on March 2. This Dr. Richards reluctantly agreed to and Coghill was wired advising that the original plan would be adhered to.

Dr. LeClerc was called to Dr. Skinner's office and advised regarding his talk at Norfolk. It was explicitly explained to him that he should not discuss anything in reference to production, acreage, or price ceilings for soybeans. Mr. Speh and Dr. Skinner both emphasized that he should keep within the confines of his own line of work. Dr. Skinner also advised him to be very careful what he said about the vitamin content of soybeans as this is a matter which is now under consideration in the Bureaus of ARA.

Mr. Paine and Dr. Goresline discussed with Dr. Skinner a proposed 30day trip by Dr. Goresline to Brazil to aid the Schreiber Company, a private industry, in promoting the production and preservation of foods in Brazil. Dr. Skinner questioned the Bureau's position in regard to such assignments and told Dr. Goresline he could not approve such an assignment at this time when he was maintaining that all of our work was on a strictly war basis. After further argument however Dr. Skinner consented to place the matter before Dr. Auchter if Dr.



Goresline would submit in writing a justification which Mr. Paine would agree to and which Dr. Skinner felt sufficiently demonstrated the merits of the undertaking.

During a long distance telephone conversation with Dr. Hilbert, he advised Dr. Skinner that he had discussed the transfer to FPA with Mr. Shollenberger and that the latter was leaving today for Chicago and would call to see Dr. Skinner and Mr. Speh as soon as the train arrives in Washington, about 4:30 P.M. on Friday.

Dr. Hilbert advised that the investigation in regard to the complaint about the Argentine students was completed and that the report will be forwarded in a day or two. He was urged to send it as promptly as possible. - *Received 7/5/43* ✓

Mr. Chas. S. Lewis of Booz, Allen and Hamilton, Chicago, interviewed Dr. Skinner in regard to the standing of the National Fertilizer Association and of the representatives of the association, Mr. Chas. J. Brand, Mr. F. S. Lodge and Mr. H. R. Smalley. He was told that all of these gentlemen have the highest standing among the professional group and that they are closely associated with the AOAC of which Dr. Skinner is Secretary-Treasurer. Dr. Skinner told Mr. Lewis he understood that the Fertilizer Association was supported by a tonnage tax and while he had not attended any of the annual conferences usually held at White Sulphur Springs, that Dr. Knight had frequently attended these meetings and always spoke with enthusiasm of the good work which was being done. Dr. Skinner expressed the view that the work of the association was of tremendous value to the fertilizer manufacturers and the public. ✓

Dr. Balls discussed with Dr. Skinner the proposed trips of him and of Tucker to do some enzyme work at the Western Regional Laboratory. Dr. Balls showed Dr. Skinner a letter which he had received from Dr. Swenson which put a new angle on the matter. Dr. Balls agreed with Dr. Skinner that because of the impending transfer of the work at Beltsville, it would be better for him to remain here until that, at least, was settled. It was therefore decided to hold the matter in abeyance, and Dr. Balls was advised to notify Dr. Swenson and Mr. Chace of it.

Dr. Goresline discussed with Dr. Skinner his proposed trip to Brazil and advised that he (Dr. Goresline) had called the matter off, so far as he was concerned. He felt however that the people who had taken it up with him would perhaps go to the Vice-President, and through him to the Secretary, and we may be in a position in which we will have to be prepared to justify our position.

Mr. Griffin came in to discuss with Dr. Skinner a conversation which he had had in January with Dr. Swenson about his being transferred to the WRRL. This matter has been brewing for several years and discussions have occurred between Dr. Swenson and Mr. Griffin about it. Dr. Skinner advised Mr. Griffin if he had any thought of asking for a transfer to the WRRL he should take it up with Dr. Swenson immediately since the overtime pay legislation would call for reconsideration of personnel funds. Dr. Swenson should know of Mr. Griffin's desire at the earliest possible moment.

Mr. Donovan discussed with Dr. Skinner the movement of mail in and through the Office of the Chief. Dr. Skinner gave Mr. Donovan a copy of a diagram which had been prepared by Dr. Stevens. This is a flow sheet indicating how incoming and outgoing mail, and other written matter, should be routed. Mr. Donovan took the matter under advisement and will discuss it on Monday or Tuesday. Mr. Donovan suggested that it might be well to try it out for a short time

and plans to have Mrs. Jacobs and Miss Farley go over the incoming mail together and determine at that level how it should be routed.

Mr. Cheatham came in to discuss a report which he had prepared for Secretary Grover Hill at the latter's request. He was instructed to rewrite it so that it would pass through the office of Dr. Auchter.

Dr. Skinner called Mr. Herrick on the phone, as he had heard he had an instrument at his bedside. Mr. Herrick talked in good voice and said that while he was not feeling as spry as yesterday he thought ~~he~~ was getting along very well. Mr. Speh also spoke to Mr. Herrick over the phone.

Dr. May called about the five Latin American students who are here to study various phases of cellulose work. Mr. Wheeler advised Dr. May that these students arrived very unexpectedly and he wanted to know what should be done with them. Dr. Skinner and Mr. Speh advised Dr. May by telephone to send the students over Saturday morning and an arrangement would be made for them to contact Dr. Price in order to find out just exactly what the students wanted to do. A recommendation for disposition will then be made. 2

Mr. Shollenberger was to have called at the Bureau at 4 P. M. Up to the time Dr. Skinner left at 6 o'clock, he had not yet reported in.



Mr. Shollenberger discussed with Dr. Skinner the proposal for his transfer to the FPA. He expressed doubt as to what his position would be. He said he did not think he would make up his mind until after he had talked with Mrs. Shollenberger. Dr. Skinner's guess is that he will accept the job.

Mr. Teuton discussed with Dr. Skinner the statement in a Philadelphia paper about the tobacco extract work. Dr. Skinner inquired as to who gave out this information and wondered about the silly statement regarding the use of insecticides in bread making. Mr. Teuton said that the material did not pass through this office. He thought it was probably written by some reporter as a result of an interview.

Mr. Mottern talked with Dr. Skinner regarding the patent issued to Blanck, Mottern, Swenson and Nelson for the preservation of fruit juices. This is a case in which Libby, McNeil and Libby is being sued under a patent issued to Stevens, which seems to be in interference with the Government patent. Mr. W. Parker Jones has come into the case for Swift & Company, and I believe, for Armour & Company ~~for~~ intervenors, since our public service patent is of interest to them in work which they are doing. Arrangements were made for Mr. Mottern to discuss the matter with Mr. Jones. ✓

Warren Tydings, credit officer for the Hecht Company, called about the possibility of obtaining contact with either FPA or FDA. I advised him to see his college-mate, Reuben Brigham of the Extension Service who might give him a proper lead. Also suggested that he discuss the matter with Dr. H.C. Byrd of the University of Maryland.

Mr. R. B. Gray discussed with Dr. Skinner his proposed trip to the various field stations and was advised to delay the trip for at least six weeks. The reason for the suggested delay was not explained. Mr. Gray also desired advice regarding an offer which had been

made to him to transfer to WPB to work on some projects regarding the priorities of agricultural machinery. Dr. Skinner told him he was not in a position to advise him.

Mr. Speh, Mr. Donovan and Dr. Skinner discussed the memorandum to Dr. Auchter regarding the resignation of Dr. Manley and his group to accept employment with General Mills. The statement was rewritten and later sent to Dr. Auchter by special messenger. Dr. May was advised of this memorandum and told about the latest draft upon the staff of the NRRL, and Dr. May agreed, on request of Dr. Skinner, to make an appointment with Dr. Auchter to discuss the matter with Dr. Skinner and Dr. May.

Dr. Hilbert called from Peoria about the above matter and Dr. Skinner explained to him his serious concern about the loss of so many of the staff and pointed out to Dr. Hilbert the embarrassing position which we shall be in if the entire staff which is working on Norepol is transferred to the General Mills organization in order to carry forward, as a private industry, the Norepol project. Dr. Skinner expressed his opinion that serious embarrassment and criticism would result from the Appropriations Committee of the House if no effort was made to prevent the raiding of the staffs of our regional laboratories, upon which thousands of dollars of the taxpayers' money has already been spent. He pointed out the unfortunate position the Bureau will be in before the public if something is not done to prevent what he believes is a distinct betrayal of public trust.

February 15, 1943C. F. Speh

Conference with Dr. H. C. McPhee, BAI, and Dr. V. R. Boswell, BPI, in Mr. Speh's office to discuss cooperative work with U. S. Sugar Corporation on sweetpotatoes. Dr. McPhee is to let me have a statement as to the possible need and value of sweetpotatoes as cattle feed in the South.



Mr. Speh, Mr. Ellis, Mr. Wolfe and Dr. Skinner discussed the budget with special reference to the statement requiring the employment of Government automobiles and the preparation of a justification for the use of long distance telephone.

Mr. George Mitchell called to see Dr. Skinner and discussed the relation of his company to the priorities established by the FDA.

Mr. Boyd brought in Mr. Byrom, a new appointee to be stationed at Stoneville, Miss.

Dr. Kraybill came in to discuss with Dr. Skinner some of the changes in the department setup, especially with reference to its relation to the meat packing industry.

Mr. McCrory discussed some of the difficulties he is having, especially in Kentucky with the hemp work and expressed the fear that he would not be able to secure sufficient seed for this year's planting. He was told about the difficulty which we had had with sorghum seed. He asked specifically about the rumored transfer of the research work from the Soil Conservation Service to the ARA and inquired if Dr. Skinner knew of the rearrangement of this work. Dr. Skinner stated that he had heard of the transfer of the work but he did not discuss with Mr. McCrory any of the proposed changes in the Department.

Mr. Groggins came in to discuss the proposed transfer of P.B. Jacobs to the FPA. He had not heard of the offer made to Mr. Shollenberger and Dr. Skinner told him if Shollenberger should accept the position that some of the work Shollenberger was doing would devolve upon Jacobs. Dr. Skinner explained to Mr. Groggins that we ought to have a definite statement from Shollenberger by the end of the week and asked that he delay further action on the proposed action on the Jacobs case until after he had received this information. (See Jfr Feb 18)



Mr. Speh discussed with Dr. Skinner the possibility of Mr. Shollenberger leaving the NRRL. Dr. Skinner advised that he had discussed the matter with Mr. Herrick on Tuesday evening and Herrick was concerned about the possibility of replacement. Later in the morning, a telegram was received from Dr. Hilbert stating that Mr. Shollenberger had decided not to accept the position.

As per note on Feb. 16 (p. 96), Dr. Skinner called Mr. Groggins and told him about the decision of Shollenberger to remain in Peoria and that therefore he could go ahead with the arrangements about Mr. P.B. Jacobs. This has Mr. Herrick's approval, provided Mr. Jacobs remains in Peoria until the man from Puerto Rico arrives. Dr. Skinner called Mr. Herrick and advised him of the situation.

Dr. Auchter called on Dr. Skinner and remained about an hour discussing the changes which were proposed in the work of the Department as it effects the BACE. Dr. Auchter advised that he had heard from the Budget Bureau that the President has signed the order about the engineering work, the protein work and the weed eradication work. Dr. Auchter also stated that the Bureau of the Budget had advised that favorable consideration would be given to the request for money for moving the staff out of Washington to the Regional Research Laboratories. Mr. Martin of the Budget Bureau was not in favor of providing the money for moving to Beltsville, but agreed to take the matter under advisement, since space thus provided in the South Building would take care of the members of the WPB who were to be moved to the Department of Agriculture. Dr. Auchter discussed some of the internal changes within the Bureau and when the question was raised by Dr. Skinner of the advisability of the cereal work going to Peoria, Dr. Auchter made the statement that such an arrangement was in accord with the agreement between Dr. Auchter and this Bureau. Dr. Skinner pointedly challenged this statement and pointed out that the matter was never discussed with him (Dr. Skinner) and no agreement was reached. Rather, when Auchter and Cardon discussed the matter with members of



the BACE, it was only from the standpoint as to how Dr. Auchter's orders were to be implemented. Dr. Skinner specifically mentioned the undesirability of the Stoneville Laboratory and the Corvallis Laboratory being transferred to the BPI. Dr. Auchter further discussed the question of Dr. Stevens' division transfer to Beltsville, and the situation in regard to the cereal work, as it is affected by the retirement of Dr. LeClerc in May. Dr. Skinner explained to Dr. Auchter that it has been his expectation to recommend the discontinuance of the cereal work and that this money be used to further develop the work of the Enzyme Laboratory. Dr. Skinner explained to Dr. Auchter the outstanding service of the Enzyme Laboratory and the Allergen Laboratory. Dr. Auchter indicated he would be willing to discuss the matter further. He said he would probably be embarrassed since the money was set up to make the change, especially that of moving from Beltsville to San Francisco, which Dr. Skinner explained had only been a suggestion and not a determination by this Bureau. Dr. Auchter advised that in response to Dr. Skinner's memorandum he had immediately taken the matter up with Hamilton and made an appointment with the Secretary to discuss the whole question of release of personnel to other units of the Government service, and especially the problem of interposing an objection to the release of personnel to establish or develop private commercial industry, such as Norepol.

Dr. Wells was advised to be in Washington the morning of the 19th as it is anticipated that Mr. Spoh will go before the committee on either the 19th, 20th or 21st. Dr. Auchter was expected to be before the committee on the afternoon of the 18th.

Dr. Hilbert called to advise that two representatives of the General Mills expected to be in Peoria on the 20th to discuss with Dr. Manley the development of the Norepol work which involved General Mills taking over Manley and several others of his assistants. Dr. Hilbert inquired if it would ~~be desirable~~ not be possible to send a telegram to Mr. D. B. Davis, President of General Mills, protesting against this raid upon our professional staff. Dr. Hilbert stated that Mr. Hyde, the Vice-President of the company, was one of the two men coming to Peoria on the 20th. Dr. Skinner

explained that he had filed a statement with Dr. Auchter which was to be discussed with the Secretary either the afternoon of the 18th or the morning of the 19th and Dr. Skinner promised to get before Dr. Auchter the telegram to Davis.

Mr. Linton came in to discuss the preparation of an obituary notice for Dr. Alsberg and agreed to have the material in rough draft by April 1st. It was agreed that Dr. Skinner would take the material and add a personal touch to it and sign it. The article is to appear in the Journal of the AOAC over Dr. Skinner's signature.

Conference with Mr. Speh, Mr. Donovan, Dr. Stevens, Dr. Wells and Dr. Skinner to prepare for Dr. Auchter a statement giving 3 or 4 examples of outstanding accomplishments during the last three years. This statement is to be transmitted to Mr. Cardon before 4:30 today. (Issued)

Dr. Woodbury discussed with Mr. Speh, Mr. Donovan and Dr. Skinner the letter received from Milo Perkins requesting the Secretary to approve of absence without pay for Dr. Goresline to go to Brazil with Mr. Schreiber and Mr. Priebe. Dr. Skinner advised Dr. Woodbury that he had discussed the matter with Dr. Goresline and Mr. Paine on Thursday, February 11, and told them at that time that he disapproved Dr. Goresline making the trip. Dr. Skinner does not think that a representative of the Government should go on a private expedition such as outlined; that he further did not believe that Dr. Goresline should leave the war work which we believe is of outstanding importance; and that he did not believe Dr. Goresline could afford to leave just now because of uncertain conditions in the Bureau organization. Dr. Woodbury indicated that Dr. Auchter agreed with the disapproval and said that he would write a letter for the Secretary's signature reciting the above facts. Later, after talking with Dr. Goresline, Dr. Skinner advised Dr. Woodbury that a letter had been written by Mr. Jacobs of the Secretary's office, a copy of which Dr. Goresline had in his possession, stating that the Department would approve his leave of absence, provided it was approved by the Chief of the Bureau. Dr. Goresline also exhibited a letter written by Mr. Jacobs to a Mr. Hays, whom he addressed as "Ted", giving an outline of Dr. Goresline's educational qualifications and experience. Mr. Donovan disclaimed any knowledge of furnishing the data, so it is uncertain from what source it came. Dr. Woodbury evidently immediately got in touch with Mr. Jacobs to communicate these facts to him because about 6 o'clock Mr. Jacobs called Dr. Skinner and stated that he did not know why the matter was brought to the Secretary's office in the first place and he only approved it because he was told that the matter had been cleared through Dr. Auchter and through Dr. Skinner. Upon direct questioning by Dr. Skinner, Mr.



Jacobs confirmed this by stating that Mr. Odell made the statement but that Dr. Goresline, who was with Mr. Odell, did not offer any denial of the statement. Consequently, Mr. Jacobs had taken the matter as approved and had acted accordingly. He seemed very much embarrassed when he was informed by Dr. Skinner that no such approval had been given, and that so far as he knew, the matter had never been brought to the attention of Dr. Auchter. Upon repeated questioning, Dr. Skinner was unable to determine to what extent Dr. Goresline had stimulated the whole move to have him make the trip to Brazil.

David Meeker's secretary called to advise that a conference was to be held in Mr. Meeker's office today at 3 P.M. to consider the rationing of batteries for farm radios. As it was too late to contact Mr. Miller, Dr. Skinner asked Dr. Price to attend the meeting, which he consented to do.

Dr. Skinner discussed with Mr. Donovan the possible disposition of the equipment which was bought with the money from the State Department and used at Northport. Mr. Donovan agreed to get from Mr. Stevens the inventory covering this equipment and how it appears on our charge account.

Long distance phone call with Dr. Swenson and Mr. Aanestad, and Dr. Skinner, Mr. Speh and Mr. Donovan. Discussed the telegram previously sent to Swenson urging that the Western Lab. furnish a man to investigate fire and dust explosion hazards in a vegetable dehydration plant at Vacaville, California. Dr. Swenson asked about the decision on his recommendation regarding the return of Sando to Washington. He was told to advise Sando to remain in Albany until advice was received from the Bureau. Dr. Skinner inquired of Dr. Swenson about his letter regarding the ~~re~~ organization and direction of the field laboratories recently transferred to his jurisdiction. Dr. Swenson advised he would reply immediately but that it had already been decided for Mr. Chace to remain in charge of the work of all three laboratories, but would retain his headquarters at Los Angeles, only going to Albany for dehydration conferences when called upon. Mr. Donovan discussed with Mr. Aanestad the

Dr. Skinner discussed with Dr. May the proposed telegram to Mr. Robinson of the General Mills, which was urged be sent by Dr. Hilbert. The proposed telegram is as follows:

"Because of the great importance of the research work on synthetic rubber it would be a public misfortune to disrupt or interfere with this work. Will you consider deferring for one year your request for the release of Manley and members of his staff."

Dr. May expressed some doubt that Dr. Auchter would approve recommending this wire to the Secretary and felt that the matter should be discussed at length with Dr. Auchter as it applied to the whole department. When the conversation developed the uncertainty about how many men were to be taken by the General Mills Corporation, it was decided to talk further with Hilbert before sending the proposed telegram over for conference with Dr. May and Dr. Auchter. Mr. Speh agreed to call Dr. Hilbert for this information Saturday morning.

Dr. Palkin was invited into Dr. Skinner's office <sup>but</sup> ~~about~~ his promotion to Division Chief was handed to him, and personally, in the presence of Mr. Speh, Dr. Skinner explained to Dr. Palkin the delay in action on the recommendation and told him that part of Dr. Auchter's delay had been caused by the interference of Dr. Palkin's brother in the matter. Dr. Skinner observed that the best intentions of relatives and friends sometimes in matters of this kind are embarrassing and that his brother Joe had done him no service in his attempt to bring political pressure to bear on the Department and filing charges of favoritism. Dr. Palkin seemed considerably embarrassed at the frank comment which Dr. Skinner made.



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G. E. Hilbert was contacted by long distance telephone and asked to estimate his expenditures for butylene glycol and Norepol for the F.Y. 1944. His estimate was -

Butylene glycol	\$190,000
Norepol	40,000

The work under butylene glycol will consist of the development of processes by the fermentation of corn and wheat, for the production of a rubber intermediate (butylene glycol), and thence butadiene, a copolymer for the production of synthetic rubber.

The work under Norepol will consist of the development of a process for a polymer of certain vegetable oils (soybean and corn, for example) for the production of rubber substitutes of wide use.

Dr. Hilbert was then asked just how serious was the situation in regard to raid on personnel for transfer to outside agencies and the situation was summarized by Dr. Hilbert as follows:

Dr. Manley to General Mills to work on industrial uses for soybean oil). He has handed in his letter of resignation to take effect March 31. He will receive a salary of \$11,000.

Dr. Cowan to General Mills to work with Manley. His decision is as yet indefinite. He has been offered a salary of \$6500.

Dr. Cass will go to InterChemical, Inc. to work on drying oils. He has handed in his resignation to take effect March 31. He will receive a salary of \$7500.

Dr. Wheeler is negotiating with General Mills but has as yet made no definite decision. He would work under Dr. Manley, ~~probably on oils~~ on oils. (Wheeler also has other offers from other firms) General Mills has offered him a salary of \$6500.

Mr. Evans has been offered a job under Dr. Manley with General Mills. He will work on corn protein. He has been offered a salary of \$4500. His present grade is P-4 - (\$3800) Indefinite



Mr. Foster (P-2) working under Manley on corn protein. He has handed in his resignation effective March 31. He has been offered positions with General Mills and others but has not yet decided which one he will accept.

Mr. Babcock (P-1) with Smith. Has received offers but indicates if he could be reallocated from P-1 to P-2 he will stay. If he leaves he will go with Hercules to work on soybean protein.

Dr. Hilbert was asked just what it would mean to the work if all of the above men were to leave the NRRL. Dr. Hilbert stated that the work would be seriously crippled. That the work on Norepol would have to be stopped entirely, but this would not be as serious as the other work, due to the fact that Norepol is now ready for industrial development. In other words, Norepol is up to the development stage where industry can take over.

Dr. May stated that although this was true, there was yet a lot of work to be done in the field of chemistry because of the impact of the war, such as fibers from Norepol.

Dr. Hilbert was asked the exact type of investigations being carried on by General Mills. He indicated - industrial utilization of oils, proteins and carbohydrates.

\* \* \*

As requested by Mr. Smoot Friday afternoon late, figures on rubber projects on which this Bureau is engaged as well as estimated costs for fiscal years 1943 and 44 were sent over Saturday morning.

Designation of D. J. Price as Bureau representative to go to Vacaville, Calif. to advise on dust and fire explosion hazards in a dehydration plant, was indicated by Dr. Auchter, through Dr. Woodbury.

C. E. Gapen's trip to the ERRL to prepare a press release for the Dept. office of Information was approved. (Exp. incident to the trip to be borne by the ERRL)

Mr. Cheatham inquired regarding assignment of DuPre to do some special cotton work for FPA in Washington. The matter was called to the attention of Mr. Speh by Mrs. Jacobs and Mr. Speh took the correspondence regarding the matter to his office and said it was his intention to hand the entire matter over to Mr. Cheatham to handle.

Dr. May, Dr. Wells, Mr. Speh, Dr. H. Stevens and Mr. Donovan met in Dr. Skinner's office from 10 to 12 in the morning to discuss budget matters.

Dr. Auchter came in the office at 1:50 to see Dr. Skinner. When he was told of Dr. Skinner's absence he first said "O.K. I will get in touch with him at a later time." However, he returned in a few minutes, contacted Mr. Donovan, and later Mrs. Jacobs determined that Mr. Speh, Dr. Auchter and Mr. Donovan went down to Dr. Jones' office and explained to him that the work of his division was to be transferred to the new Bureau of Home Economics which was to be headed up by Dr. Sherman of Columbia University.

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Congressional Hearings on Appropriation Bill for 1944 were held Monday afternoon, February 22 and Tuesday morning, February 23.

February 22, 1943C. F. Speh

Mr. Joseph Ferris of U. S. Sugars called to inquire about the status of the cooperative agreement. Mr. Speh told him that a conference had been held between BAI, BPT and this Bureau. He told him that the matter still was in abeyance.

Later Congressman Peterson called to inquire about this matter and the same explanation was given to him.

As soon as there is a definite report, these gentlemen will be advised.



February 23, 1943C. F. Speh

Mr. Teuton conferred with Mr. Speh, stating that it was contemplated to have a committee created to discuss the feasibility of briefing manuscripts which are offered for publication. This would include a summary of the manuscript and drastic shortening by elimination of detailed description of methods, processes, etc. I suggested that Mr. Holman be appointed to represent the Bureau on this Committee.

Dr. Skinner went to Dr. Auchter's office to discuss the trip of Dr. Goresline to Brazil. Dr. Auchter stated that he had been advised by the office of the Secretary that the Brazilian Ambassador desired very much to have Dr. Goresline released for 30 days to make the trip as originally planned. Dr. Auchter called in Dr. May and later called Mr. Jacobs of the Secretary's office. There is considerable confusion about the development of this matter. Mr. Jacobs stated emphatically that he could not understand why it had ever been brought to the Secretary's office. None of us seemed to know who Mr. Odell was and Mr. Jacobs suggested that he probably represented the Schreiber Company. Upon unquiry however, it was found that Mr. Odell is one of Mr. ~~XXXXXXXX~~ Termohlen's assistants. This was very much of a surprise to Mr. Jacobs who had talked to Dr. Goresline and Mr. Odell about the matter without Mr. Odell informing him that he was a Government employee. It was finally decided, as a matter of policy, that Dr. Goresline should be permitted to go to Brazil, but at Dr. Skinner's suggestion it was determined to ask Mr. Termohlen if he would guarantee all expenses of Dr. Goresline from whatever point he was working in Texas to his point of debarkation, and upon his return to pay all expenses for his travel to whatever point the operating unit is then in service. Dr. Auchter was quite emphatic that Dr. Goresline could not be released on furlough without pay and that he would not consent to him receiving any honorarium. He explained this to Mr. Termohlen who said that he would write Dr. Auchter a letter explaining the desire of the Department to have Dr. Goresline make the investigation. Later, the following telephone message was received from Dr. Auchter's office:

"Mr. Termohlen's office will pay Dr. Goresline's expenses to wherever he is in Texas to where he has to go to leave the country, and from Miami back to wherever he reports to duty upon his return to this country."

*See page 107a*

DR. AUCHTER'S OFFICE SAYS:

Mr. Termohlen's office will pay Dr. Goresline's expenses to wherever he is in Texas to where he has to go to leave the country, and from Miami back to wherever he reports to duty upon his return to this country.

FMJ - 2/24



Immediately upon receipt of the above message, a long distance call was placed for Dr. Goresline at Dallas, Texas where he was scheduled to be attending a Poultry and Egg Meeting at the Adolphus Hotel. Word came back from the hotel that Dr. Goresline had not reached there and the scheduled meeting was not to be in session until tomorrow (Thursday). The following telegram was then sent to Dr. Goresline:

"Call me long distance telephone nine-thirty  
Thursday morning." (/s/ WWS)

Dr. Skinner notified Dr. Auchter's office by telephone of this action.

\* \* \*

Dr. Auchter called in Dr. May to discuss the possible recovery of protein feed from the thin liquor from the fermentation of wheat in the making of alcohol. There had been some discussion with Mr. Hamilton of the Secretary's office regarding the proposed recovery of the protein that now goes to waste in the thin liquors that are usually backed off into a convenient river or harbor or disposed of through a sewage plant. Dr. Auchter asked Dr. May to prepare at once a statement based on the number of plants in operation, the amount of wheat it is proposed to use, and the estimated quantity of byproduct feed obtained from the mash and from the wheat liquor. Dr. May referred to the statement submitted by the BA&IC.

Dr. Auchter discussed briefly with Dr. May and Dr. Skinner the change in the guayule rubber program and called a meeting of the interested parties to meet in his office at 11:30 Thursday morning. Dr. Skinner, Mr. Speh and Mr. Donovan are to attend this meeting.

Mr. Speh, Mr. Donovan and Dr. Skinner discussed the presentation made at the Congressional Hearings on Monday afternoon and Tuesday morning of this week. Dr. Skinner told Mr. Speh Dr. Auchter was well satisfied with the way in which he presented the program before the Committee.

Mr. Paine inquired of Dr. Skinner in regard to the rumor going around about the moving of certain portions of the Washington Bureau to the field stations. Dr. Skinner advised him that he could not discuss the matter with him. Dr. Skinner did say that just this morning Dr. Auchter had told him that the request which he had made at the Budget Bureau for money to make the proposed move to Beltsville had not been finally approved and that he, Dr. Auchter, did not care to make a statement about the situation until he knew definitely whether the necessary money will be made available. Dr. Skinner told Mr. Paine that other than the above statement he was not in a position to discuss the matter with him.

*(as announced publicly)*

Mr. Griffin discussed with Dr. Skinner the transfer of his two lines of work to the BPI and asked for instructions about the continuation of the work. Dr. Skinner suggested that perhaps he would hear from the Chief of BPI in a few days and he felt it advisable to continue along with the present plans until he had definite instructions. The transfer of certain of the equipment was discussed and Mr. Donovan was called in to determine how certain of the equipment ought to be disposed of. It was brought out in the discussion that all of the equipment which was bought with the money transferred from the State Department had been carried on an independent inventory, all of the material being charged directly to Mr. Griffin. The inventories of the weed eradication work and the contaminant and camouflage work are carried in Mr. Paine's unit. Mr. Donovan stated that he had already asked Mr. Stevens to submit a statement regarding these inventories. Dr. Skinner suggested to Mr. Griffin that he did not care to be in the position of quibbling over the separation of the equipment and suggested to Mr. Griffin that where there seemed to be any doubt, that it should be resolved in favor of transferring to Plant Industry such of the special equipment as he would probably need in carrying the program as already set up.

Dr. Goresline, as instructed by wire of yesterday, called Dr. Skinner about 10:30 and discussed his proposed trip to Brazil. He said it would be necessary to go to Miami by way of Washington because certain material had been left in Washington and he would have to come here in order to complete his visa requirements. He stated, for the first time, that it was anticipated that he would accompany Messrs. Schreiber and Priebe to Buenos Aires, in addition to the trip to Brazil. He said that he would immediately get in touch with the Schreiber Company of Chicago and call back if that company was still interested in having him make the trip and would provide the necessary expense. It was explained to Dr. Goresline that Dr. Auchter approved his going, but not on furlough - that he would continue on the Government payroll but the Schreiber company would be expected to pay all of his expenses. In the afternoon, the following wire was received from Dr. Goresline:



"Will arrive Friday morning. Call Termohlen's office. Expect to get off by the Wednesday sailing."

(This wire was addressed to Mr. Paine, who called Dr. Skinner's office to ask for an explanation of its contents. Mrs. Jacobs provided the necessary background for Mr. Paine's information)

Conference in Dr. Auchter's office regarding reduction in the estimates for the guayule program. Mr. Speh, and Mr. Donovan accompanied Dr. Skinner to this meeting. Mr. Salmond of the Forest Service outlined the change in the green sheets estimates according to the letters received from Mr. Jeffers curtailing the allotment of money to this project.

Dr. Silverman of the University of Pittsburgh asked Dr. Skinner to come to the Cosmos Club for a conference at one o'clock to meet Mr. P. N. Youtz of the WPB - OPRD (Re 7500-Br. 73219). Dr. Silverman explained that he had been allotted funds for the study of the development of glass containers for all kinds of packaging purposes. Mr. Youtz was particularly interested in the development of packages for food products. He said that he had been in touch with Dr. Auchter about the matter and had suggested that the general direction of the food side of the work should be supervised by the Dept. of Agriculture. He said it was Dr. Davis' expressed wish to his staff that they do not enter the field of food utilization any further than was absolutely necessary, but Mr. Youtz said they were willing to help in a cooperative way wherever desirable. He was asked to submit the matter in writing so that Dr. Skinner might present it to Dr. Auchter. Later, Dr. Skinner discussed the matter with Dr. May and suggested that there ought to be a general committee in the Department of Agriculture for the consideration of all types of packaging. Dr. May ~~di~~ stated that some of the agencies within and without the department were already giving attention to the packaging question. As soon as Mr. Youtz' letter is received a memorandum to Dr. Auchter should be prepared covering this suggestion. 2

Mr. Speh, Mr. Donovan, Dr. Wells and Dr. Skinner discussed Speh's proposed trip to the West and his contacts with Swenson regarding the hemlock bark problem. Dr. Wells was again asked about the space situation in the ERRL and stated that the survey had been made and results were being put on the floor plan charts which will be sent to the Bureau in a few days.

Dr. Jones discussed with Dr. Skinner the proposed transfer of his work to the new bureau under Dr. Sherman. Dr. Skinner explained that he was not aware of any of the details of the proposed setup.

Mr. Senseman discussed with Dr. Skinner his trip to Florida and the necessity for his making it at this time, which he very much regretted. Mr. Senseman seems to be in very poor health.

Dr. May came over about 5 o'clock and together with Dr. Skinner discussed with Dr. Hilbert (via long distance telephone) and Mr. Gordon McBride, the wheat alcohol conference which is being held today and tomorrow at Peoria. Dr. May advised Mr. McBride to secure all of the data available regarding the recovery of byproduct feed from the thin slop in the production of alcohol, and especially the estimates for this recovery when granular wheat is used in the manufacture of alcohol.

Dr. Hilbert discussed at some length the serious difficulty which had developed in the relations of one of the Argentine students, Mr. Mallyea, with a young woman in Peoria which may develop into very regrettable scandal. Dr. Skinner explained very clearly to Dr. Hilbert that the Bureau cannot be involved in any way although he was aware of our embarrassment in the matter. Dr. Skinner pointed out that Dr. Hilbert's recommendation to move Mallyea from Peoria to the Philadelphia laboratory was inadvisable and Dr. Hilbert stated that he had already withdrawn his approval sent in by letter the day before, but which had not yet been approved. Dr. Skinner cautioned that the matter may get into the courts of Illinois and he did not wish to invite any criticism of any action taken by the Bureau. Dr. Hilbert thoroughly agreed with this. A memorandum had already been prepared for Dr. Auchter reciting the case in detail and this was read to Dr. May. After slight re-

vision was signed by Dr. Skinner to be presented to Dr. Auchter the first thing Friday morning.

Mr. George Martin of the BEW called on the phone about the development of a nut cracking machine to be used in the utilization of babassu nuts. This is an experimental machine which is being built by a company at Oakland, California. Mr. Martin wanted one of the engineers at the Albany laboratory to inspect this machine and advise the BEW regarding its probable merit. He stated that if the machine seemed to be satisfactory from an engineering standpoint, the BEW was considering the purchase of a number of them to be sent to Brazil. Mr. Martin was asked to submit a request in writing, which would be referred to the proper parties for consideration.



Mr. Kramer of the Solicitor's office advised that they furnished Mr. Kaufman a copy of the opinion, dated Feb. 5, submitted by W. Carroll Hunter, Acting Solicitor, in connection with the controversy which has arisen on the question of inventorship of proposed applications for patents on "Catalytic Liquid Phase Oxidation of Nicotine, Beta-Picoline and Quinoline" and "Catalytic Oxidation of Nicotine" and that Mr. Kaufman has acknowledged the decision and asked for an appointment on either the 19th, 20th, 26th or 27th. Mr. Kramer does not know what Mr. Kaufman has in mind but he will advise us of the outcome. Mr. Kramer suggested that all three parties should be notified of any requests made for reconsideration or any steps taken for reconsideration. He asked that we send a copy of Dr. Woodward and Mr. Badgett's comments to Mr. Kaufman. A letter has been prepared to Mr. Kaufman and is going over to Mr. Kramer for clearance before it is sent.

Dr. May, Mr. Donovan and Dr. Skinner spent the morning reviewing and correcting the testimony before the Agricultural Committee regarding the Regional Laboratories.

Dr. May, Mr. Donovan and Dr. Skinner discussed the statement to Dr. Auchter with reference to the Argentine students' affair at Peoria. The revised statement was sent to Dr. Auchter's office this morning. Later in the day Dr. Hilbert made a further telephone report stating that an air mail letter was being sent covering later developments. He also stated that the matter of the girl had promised to make a statement in writing which he expected to receive Saturday morning and he would send it here by airmail.

Mr. Teuton came in to discuss the invitation for Dr. Skinner to make an address at Birmingham, Alabama, in April, before the Southern Commercial Congress. It was decided that this would not be accepted and Mr. Teuton was advised to write the editor of the Manufacturers' Record.

Dr. McCall of BPI discussed over the phone with Dr. Skinner the developments at the hearing in regard to the sorghum sugar work. It was decided that the conference by representatives of BPI and A&IC would be held. Dr. Skinner told Dr. McCall he would advise him after discussing the matter with Mr. Paine Saturday morning.

Mr. Emery of the ACS called to inquire about the approval of an abstract of a paper by Cass and Krell. Mr. Teuton was with Dr. Skinner at the time and informed him that the abstract had been reviewed by proper authorities and released. This information was conveyed to Mr. Emery.

Dr. Skinner and Dr. Stevens discussed the proposed conference with the Technical Advisory Committee of the N.C.P.A. Mr. Barrow had suggested that the meeting be held on May 19. This seems impossible. A letter was written today suggesting that the meeting be held either the afternoon of May 11 or the morning or afternoon of May 15.

Dr. McCall's office was advised that Mr. Paine would not be available for the suggested conference between representatives of this Bureau and BPI until Wednesday. Later, arrangements were made with Dr. McCall to hold the meeting in Dr. Skinner's office at 10 o'clock Wednesday morning, March 3. The purpose of the discussion will be the production of high-sugar sorghum seed.

Dr. Price discussed with Dr. Skinner his memorandum regarding the proposed trip to inspect the dehydration plant at Vacaville, Calif. His memo was transmitted with a cover letter to Dr. Woodbury Saturday afternoon, Feb. 27.

Mr. Cheatham came in to discuss the proposed letter written by Mr. Lynch in reply to the statement from Congressman Fulmer about making of paper from cotton and the alleged lack of interest in this matter by the SRRL. Mr. Cheatham was instructed to revise the letter covering the points that Mr. Lynch had omitted, and the data will then be submitted to Dr. Auchter.

Dr. Wells called inquiring if Mr. Griffin would be available for an assignment to the rubber work at Salinas. He was told to discuss it with Mr. Griffin when he comes to Washington on Monday.

An additional letter was received from Dr. Hilbert regarding the matter of Mr. Mallyea, the Argentine student. This was turned over to Dr. Donovan and it was decided to hold it until a further report was received from Dr. Hilbert, when the whole matter will be referred to Dr. May.



March  
1943

Dr. Auchter called and asked for an explanation of the increase of \$212,000 in the estimates for the emergency rubber program for 1944. Dr. Skinner told him that just for the moment he could not understand what the \$212,000 represented, and suggested that as soon as Dr. Wells came in at 11:30 he would call him. Later when Dr. Wells came in he and Dr. Skinner discussed the matter over the phone with Dr. Auchter and they were unable to entirely satisfy Dr. Auchter about the increase from \$405,000 to \$617,000. Dr. Skinner sent over to Dr. Auchter the tabulation which had been made by Mr. Ellis which clearly set forth these changes. It was explained to Dr. Auchter at the time of the discussion in his office, ~~it~~ and it was agreed that there would be no change in the estimate for the Bureau of Entomology and the Bureau of Agr. and Industrial Chemistry, but that there would be a slight reduction of several thousand dollars in a revised program for the Bureau of Plant Industry, Soils & Agr. Eng. At this discussion Dr. Wells, Mr. Donovan both had in mind that the basis of the discussion was on the revised estimate of \$617,000 for the fiscal year '44. Dr. Wells had already filed a statement with Mr. Granger and had personally cleared it with him on this basis. Apparently Dr. Auchter when he saw the tabulated statement only considered the \$405,000, the original estimate which had been changed to the \$617,000 by Mr. Granger and Dr. Wells, as above stated. There was no change in the Bureau of Agr. and Ind. Chem. of \$617,000 subsequent to the meeting in Dr. Auchter's office. The confusion arises because of Dr. Auchter's insistence that he considered only the \$405,000 original estimate which it is true is the estimate in the green sheets. Later in the afternoon a summarized statement was prepared by Mr. Donovan, Dr. Wells and Dr. Skinner and was sent over to Dr. Auchter about 5:45.

Dr. Skinner called and discussed several Northern Regional Laboratory matters with Dr. Hilbert, particularly the decision of Mr. Shollenberger to remain in Peoria, and also the matter of Mr. Jacobs coming to Washington to prepare a statement for the Gillette Committee. ~~XX~~  
~~XXXX~~

Dr. Wells, Mr. Griffin and Dr. Skinner had a luncheon con-

ference to discuss the setup of the laboratory at Salinas.

Congressman Lemke called and discussed with Dr. Skinner the developments in the wheat alcohol setup and the proposal to conduct experimental work on North Dakota wheat. Dr. Skinner explained to Mr. Lemke that the conference had just been held at Peoria and as soon as he has a report of the findings at this conference, he will advise Mr. Lemke. Mr. Lemke was rather insistent that Dr. Skinner come over to see him and asked that he try to arrange to do so in the next few days but said that he would like to consider the report first. Later, Dr. Skinner called Dr. May and told him of Mr. Lemke's request and asked Dr. May if he cared to come in to the conference, which he said he would.

Dr. Goresline discussed with Dr. Skinner his trip to Brazil and said that he would come in again for some instructions. It seems desirable to have Dr. Goresline contact both Dr. Stanley and Mr. L. A. Wheeler of OFR. Dr. Goresline explained that Mr. J. G. O'dell consultant for eggs and poultry industries of WPB, was formerly with the Seymour Packing Company of Topeka, Kansas. This firm is interested especially in poultry, eggs and dried milk. Mr. O'dell was first brought into the Department as a consultant in AAA by Milo Perkins and it is Dr. Goresline's understanding when Mr. Perkins went with the BEW he was instrumental in having O'dell transferred to WPB in charge of priorities for the egg and poultry industries in the Division of Dairy and Poultry, headed by Tom Stitts. All of this work was transferred to FDA from WPB.

Late in the afternoon Dr. May called and said that he was sending over the matter from Senator Gillette and suggested that Dr. Skinner call Dr. Hilbert and ask for Mr. Jacobs to come to Washington immediately for a period of 6 to 10 days. (Telegram on Wed. morning that Jacobs will arrive Thursday morning. Also memo from Dr. May confirming req. for Jacobs to come - memo dated March 2)



At 9:15 Dr. Skinner went to the Bureau Chiefs' conference in Dr. Auchter's office. Dr. Auchter announced that at the suggestion of Mr. Jump, he wished to have prepared short items of accomplishment under each financial project. Mr. Cardon stated that he would send a sample statement showing how the data should be prepared. Dr. Auchter announced that one eight ideas had been reported to Dr. Fracker, in accordance with his request of a month ago. He asked that this be again brought to the attention of all division chiefs as he hoped to make this a stimulating effort in the ARA. One of the ideas suggested was discussed with Dr. Fracker, which is an effort to increase the food supply in Africa and Brazil by agents sent over from this country. There was some discussion of the program for students coming to this country from Latin American countries. Mr. O. E. Reed was very emphatic that the present plan is not giving the proper results. He thought that too many of the students coming to this country were from the higher class South American people and that what we really wanted to do was to stimulate the advances in agriculture on a lower level. He suggested that the type of people we ought to be training are such as we have in our County Agent group. Mr. Gove Hambidge brought up the question of the preparation of weekly reports for the office of the Secretary and desires each bureau to establish a system for making such reports to him. These reports should represent outstanding accomplishments which should be supplied to the Secretary's office which wants to be more nearly up to the minute about the Department's affairs.

Called Dr. Hilbert on long distance and Dr. Skinner told him of Dr. May's request about Mr. Jacobs coming to Washington. He said he would look into the matter at once and wire me this afternoon when Jacobs would arrive. (Wire received Wed. morning)

Dr. Skinner discussed with Mr. Teuton at lunch the request of Gove Hambidge for the weekly news items and Mr. Teuton was told to get this in order.

Dr. Skinner also discussed with Mr. Teuton his proposed trip to New Orleans and the preparation of data for the

article in the Manufacturers Record about the work at the SRRL.

Mr. Teuton read the letter of Mr. Fulmer to the Director of the SRRL and the proposed replies, in order that he might discuss the matter intelligently with Mr. Lynch while he is in New Orleans.

Discussed with Dr. H. Stevens the handling of some of the difficult matters for decision that come across the desk of the office of the Chief and Dr. Stevens agreed to help with these.

Dr. Skinner discussed with Dr. Price a plan for the handling of the South American students who are now <sup>here</sup> and who are expected in the future. Dr. Skinner mentioned the suggestion made by O. E. Reed at the Bureau Chiefs' meeting this morning, in which Reed expressed his opinion that a faculty should be set up, money to be provided by the action agencies; this faculty to be located at the University of Mexico or some other university where South American students would be in a Spanish atmosphere and where language problems would be better arranged than anywhere else. Dr. Price is to submit a suggested plan along this or some other line.

Dr. Wells, Mr. Donovan and Dr. Skinner discussed the situation about the emergency rubber plan. Dr. Wells had been to see Dr. Auchter, at his request, and discussed with him and Dr. May the misunderstanding and pointed out to Dr. Auchter that the \$617,000 was the figure before him at the time we were discussing the matter in his office last week. Dr. Wells reported that the matter is all cleared up and Dr. Auchter is now willing to accept the estimate as presented by Mr. Granger which sets up \$617,000 for a program for this Bureau for 1944.

Late in the afternoon Dr. Skinner contacted Mr. Christy of Mr. Wheeler's office and explained to him about Dr. Goresline's trip. He said he would be glad to discuss the matter with Dr. Goresline and would call him this afternoon or tomorrow. Dr. Skinner explained that Dr. Goresline was leaving sometime Wednesday.



Dr. May came over and discussed with Dr. Skinner the proposed replies to the letter written by Congressman Fulmer to Mr. Lynch regarding the cotton work at the SRRL. Dr. May did not believe either of the proposed letters prepared by Lynch and Cheatham was satisfactory. Dr. Skinner finally referred the matter for review to Dr. H. Stevens.

Dr. May also discussed the bi-weekly activity reports that we have been making to Mr. Hill, copies of which, upon request, have been sent to others. Dr. May stated that Dr. Auchter had expressed some concern and displeasure over the fact that such reports were going to other people before coming to him. He said Dr. Auchter feels that there is no need for such reports, but Dr. May said they would continue to be made to Mr. Hill. After thinking the matter over, Dr. Skinner is uncertain whether Dr. May intended to convey the idea that the reports should not be submitted to anyone and decided to ask for confirmation.

Dr. McCall, Dr. G. H. Coons, Mr. S. F. Sherwood and Mr. G. B. Sartoris of the Division of Sugar Plant Investigations of BPI, S&AE, Mr. H. S. Paine and Dr. Skinner discussed the situation in regard to the growing of sorghum for the production of sugar. Dr. McCall seemed very much concerned at the report which Dr. Auchter made regarding the discussion with Mr. Tarver at the time of the Subcommittee Hearings, at which time he told Dr. McCall that some showing must be made on the \$40,000 which was now available to Plant Industry before the next hearings or he would be tremendously embarrassed. The matter was thoroughly canvassed and a committee composed of Mr. Coons and Mr. Paine was appointed to work out a plan of cooperation with some of the sugar interests to grow and mill the sorghum during the season of 1943.

At a luncheon conference, Dr. Skinner and Dr. Balls discussed the situation in regard to Dr. Balls' staff. Dr. Balls asked about the support of his work and what would be the effects if he had to move to Beltsville without additional funds. Dr. Skinner told him he was not in a position to tell him what decision would be made, but he understood from Dr. Auchter that funds had been allotted to take care of a geographical change in location of certain lines of work. Other than this Dr.



Skinner said he was unable to tell him anything.

Dr. Coghill came in to discuss with Dr. Skinner the three lines of work which are being carried on at the NRRL under his direction - the butylene glycol work, the penicillin work and the itaconic acid work. Dr. Coghill explained that they had been able to isolate among several hundred organisms a specific aspergillis found in the soil of a particular section of the United States, which produces itaconic acid in glucose solution in large yield. He was concerned about how to make this public. He said they would be glad to bring to the attention of the proper parties and wondered if it was desirable to call a conference. Dr. Skinner told him to talk it over with Dr. Hilbert, come to some decision, and make a recommendation to him.

Dr. Wells came in and told Dr. Skinner that the suggestion in regard to Mr. Griffin going to California had been decided and that Mr. Griffin would not accept the position. He said he had discussed the matter over long distance phone with Mr. Speh and with Dr. Eskew.

Mr. Cheatham came in to discuss with Dr. Skinner the situation about DuPre which Dr. Auchter had disapproved. Mr. Cheatham seemed to be out of sorts that he could not have Mr. DuPre here to work on the project with him and suggested the possibility of securing Mr. Evans, but it did not seem to Dr. Skinner that this would solve the problem. Cheatham took the papers and said he would write a reply immediately to Mr. Townsend.

Mr. Donovan advised Dr. Skinner that Mr. Stone of Mr. Jump's office had informed him that the money which had been requested of the Budget Bureau to cover the cost of moving out of the South Bldg. had been approved and would be available in a few days.

Mr. H. S. Bailey of the Exchange Orange Products Co. of Ontario, Calif. called and discussed with Dr. Skinner some of the observations which he has made on his trip East. He has just come to Washington from Florida and says that the Lake Wales plant producing orange concentrate is doing a splendid job and that the product is claimed by some to be better than that which is being produced at Ontario. Naturally, he does not say so. Mr. Bailey said that the Skinner plant at Dunedin was one of the most elaborate and beautiful plants he has ever been in but thinks the brains available in this plant do not begin to match the elaborate equipment. The product is not so good. Both of these plants are financed with lend-lease money and all of the product is going to lend-lease purposes. He said a new plant is being put up at Dade City in which the evaporating pans are a duplicate of what he has at Ontario. This plant is operated by a man by the name of Glen Davis (Eng), who has had wide experience in citrus operation, both in South Africa and California. He suggested that Dr. Skinner contact Davis as he is well worth knowing. He said that he had the lend-lease contract for the Ontario plant for the season October-April for 750,000 gallons of concentrate. He said that his aim for February had been 67,000 gallons, but they had actually produced 90,000. He said that under the arrangement 20% of the citrus fruit is diverted to the byproduct plants and he thinks that this will be enough to take care of the Army and Navy lend-lease demands. He said they are producing about 100,000 pounds of pectin a month, practically all of which is going to lend-lease. He says there is a big dissatisfaction because not enough pectin is being released for domestic purposes. ~~XXXXXX~~ He thinks this is really unwarranted. He said the pectin plant at McAllen, Texas is producing some pectin of an inferior character but he thinks the yield is very low. He said in the latter plant they try to wash out the soluble solids and they hydrolyze the pectin and then extract the concentrate on drum dryers. The difficulty with this process is that the pectin so obtained is not pure because it contains a lot of hydrolyzed material other than the pectin. Mr. Bailey left an air picture of his new plant at Ontario and I told him I was getting up a report of things accomplished which I wanted to send to Dr. Auchter and he agreed to send me two additional copies of the photograph.



Mr. Cheatham presented certain suggestions to Dr. Skinner regarding Mr. Townsend's request for assignment of DuPre to make survey of agr. bag requirements for 1943 for the office of FPA.

Dr. Skinner went to Mr. Hill's office to discuss accomplishments under the war activity program for the bi-weekly period ending March 3. Dr. Skinner left with Mr. Hill his copy of the written report. Copies for other persons to whom this biweekly report is sent were sent to Dr. May for distributing.

Mr. Donovan reported his discussion with Mr. Schoenhals about the availability of money for moving out of the South Building and said he was advised by Schoenhals that he would bring the matter to Dr. Auchter's attention so that the notification can be made with reasonable promptness. He said Dr. Auchter was very busy with the transcript of the hearings and he might not be able to give it attention for a day or so.

Dr. Skinner and Dr. Stevens attended the Red Cross meeting in the Auditorium of the Labor Department.

Dr. Goresline came in to tell Dr. Skinner about his arrangements for going to South America. As indicated to him, he discussed the trip with Dr. Stanley and she asked him to secure certain data for her. Mr. Christy had not yet contacted him but Dr. Goresline said he would call him as soon as he went back to his office. Dr. Goreslines explained that accommodations could not be secured on the Eastern Airways so he was going by way of Panama to Ecuador, Ecuador to Chile, Chile to Argentina, Argentine to Rio de Janiero, and back by the same route.

Mr. Betton came in to discuss with Dr. Skinner a change in his insurance policy.



Dr. Auchter called to advise that he would come over if possible the first thing Friday morning and discuss with Dr. Skinner the availability of the money to move the laboratories out of the South Bldg.

Mr. Cheatham and Dr. Stevens discussed with Dr. Skinner the proposed reply of letter to Mr. Fulmer criticising the work of the SRRL and requesting the laboratory to do certain experimental work to test the use of cotton in the manufacture of paper. The matter was referred to Stevens to prepare a letter along the lines indicated by Dr. Skinner.

Mr. Holman and Mr. Detwiler discussed with Dr. Skinner the request from Dr. Auchter to prepare short statements to be used by Judge Tarver in discussing the work of the Bureau in the presentation of the report of the Committee to the House. Mr. Holman agreed to get the report in not later than the afternoon of the 9th.  
(Received 3/9/43-J)

Dr. Skinner and Mr. Donovan discussed with Mr. Lynch by long distance telephone several personnel matters. Dr. Skinner told Mr. Lynch about the recommendation of Cheatham to have DuPre to assist him in making the survey of cotton bag requirements requested by Mr. Townsend of the FPA. In response to a direct question to Mr. Lynch as to whether Mr. DuPre should come to Washington on this assignment, Mr. Lynch said he would release him if it was Dr. Skinner's or Dr. Auchter's desire, but when pressed for his personal decision he said his answer was "No". A statement to this effect was immediately prepared for Dr. Auchter's signature to Mr. Townsend. (NOTE: On Saturday afternoon, March 6, Dr. Auchter's office advised that this memo to Mr. Townsend had been signed by Dr. Auchter)

Dr. Skinner told Mr. Lynch of Judge Tarver's statement before the committee expressing disappointment at the accomplishments at the Southern Laboratory and advised him that Teuton was coming down to get material for at least two papers to cover the recent work of the laboratory. Mr. Lynch said that he expected to take a few days vacation immediately after the 15th, probably for the remainder of that week. That was in response to an inquiry by Dr. Skinner as to when it would be convenient for him to come to Washington.

Dr. Skinner also asked Mr. Lynch to make a survey of the occupancy of the space in the SRRL to determine how nearly it conforms to the Departmental formula. He said he

WOULD do this at the earliest possible moment and enter the results on the floor plans of the laboratory and send a copy to Washington.

Dr. Woodbury called regarding the examination of some samples of material to determine their superiority and asked if Mr. L. S. Stuart would be available to do this work. He was told by Dr. Skinner that we were adverse to diverting the attention of our research men on the checking of samples and pointed out that all of our time might be consumed in that kind of work.



Mr. Donovan and Dr. Skinner attended the meeting in Dr. Auchter's office with the entire group in the department interested in the production of rubber. The session lasted all the morning. The plan for submitting the data to the committee was thoroughly canvassed and an outline prepared as to procedure. Immediately after the meeting adjourned, Dr. Wells was called on the phone, a report made of the meeting, and he was advised to come down Sunday night so as to be ready for an expected meeting on the rubber work at 10 o'clock on Monday.

Mr. Speh telephoned at 4 o'clock this afternoon from Albany, California, and said that he and Dr. Swenson and Mr. Eskew, in company with Mr. Hatch from the Warehouses people & Pat Heatherington, had gone up to Everett to see the logging and to see what could be done to get the tanning project going. Mr. Speh says that apparently the War Department is anxious to get this project going. Mr. Speh said that to make the tests contemplated by the Eastern Regional Research Laboratory, it will be necessary to have 7 or 8 tons of the tanning material.

Mr. Speh and Dr. Swenson have gotten some company to agree to furnish the necessary tonnage (150 tons) of salt water Western hemlock bark and load it on the railroad cars for shipment. All the Bureau will have to pay for is the freight charges in shipping this material to the plant for processing. Dr. Swenson has located a plant of the Oakes Extract Company, Arcata, California (F. W. Smythe, Manager) which company agrees to remove the salt and to dry the tanning extract. The company will run the 150 tons of wet bark through their plant for a charge of \$50.00 a day which Mr. Speh stated would involve two days to clean up before the run and two days to clean up after the run, or a total of probably 30 days. The Bureau will also have to buy the barrels at a rate of \$1.25 per barrel to ship this material East. Mr. Speh said that this plant will only be available for this purpose up to about June 1 so that we will have to move rather promptly.

I told Mr. Speh to ask Mr. Aanestad to draft a proposed contract with the Arcata Company and to consult with the Solicitor's office in San Francisco. I suggested that it probably might be easier to have the job contracted for on a lump sum basis rather than on the basis of so much per day for the plant operation. I told Mr. Aanestad to explore this thoroughly and to send in to Washington as quickly as he had prepared it the contract so that we may give it the necessary review and approval here.

While Mr. Speh suggested that if a project had not yet been approved for the Western Regional Research Laboratory

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on this Western hemlock bark work he would suggest that it be established immediately under the title "Study on the Development of a Commercial Method for the Removal of Salt and Extraction of Tanning Material from Western Hemlock Bark Obtained from Salt Ponds of Pulp Mills". He said that the outside figure to be used for 1943 would be \$15,000 and Dr. Swenson said that this should be taken, in accordance with the telegram he had sent to the Bureau some time ago, \$5,000 from wheat and \$10,000 from alfalfa.

Mr. Speh said that he was getting along well, that he was adhering to his schedule, and that he would be in Salinas on Monday.

I told Mr. Speh that the hearings on the Emergency Rubber were expected to be held Monday, March 8, and that Dr. Skinner would go up to these hearings accompanied by Dr. Wells.

I also told Mr. Speh that an announcement had not yet been made in connection with the possible moves which he knew about before he left Washington and that we would telegraph him when this announcement was made. I told him that Dr. Auchter was hoping to come over to the Bureau probably on Monday, March 8, to make this announcement.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'J. H. D.' or similar, written in a cursive style.



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Mr. Donovan, Dr. Wells and Dr. Skinner discussed the presentation of the estimates to the Appropriations Committee covering the rubber program.

Dr. Skinner and Dr. Stevens discussed the program for the NRRL regional conference on April 28 and 29. Dr. Skinner called Mr. Morse of BPI and was advised that the date was satisfactory to him or to Mr. Carrter, one of whom would attend the meetings in Peoria.

Dr. Stuart and Dr. Butts (ACR) came in to discuss the maintenance of the salmonella cultures and the type serums which it is proposed to accept from Walter Reed Hospital. It was decided that Dr. Stuart would write a memorandum which would be sent to Dr. Auchter for approval.

Mr. Donovan, Dr. Wells and Dr. Skinner attended the hearings before Judge Tarver's committee on the consolidated natural rubber program. Dr. Auchter made an opening statement, followed by a statement by Mr. Granger. The question of the relation of synthetic was compared with the natural rubber and the possibility of obtaining a supply of each was explored, especially by Judge Tarver and Mr. Dierksen. Mr. Granger maintained that the natural rubber program which was a relatively long-time plan was justified because of the insurance character of the work. Dr. May presented the synthetic rubber situation, especially that type of product obtained from agricultural raw materials. Mr. Granger presented the over-all picture in a splendid way - fluent and convincing. The committee seemed well pleased and the only apparent concern seemed to be whether anything could be done in time to meet the emergency, assuming that the war cannot possibly last as long as 1945. The part played by Foreign Relations Division in the program was presented by Mr. Moore and was not very convincing, especially to Judge Tarver.

Dr. Skinner talked with Mr. Herrick about the Cowan situation and agreed that it might be well to have Cowan come on for a discussion with him, Dr. May and Dr. Skinner. The matter was taken up with Dr. May who agreed, and later Dr. Skinner called Dr. Hilbert and arranged to have him instruct Cowan to come to Washington the first part of next week if his work is such as to permit it.

Dr. Wells was not feeling in top shape so he left on the early train to return to Philadelphia.

Dr. May reported that he had been unable to get any statement from Dr. Auchter about the Secretary's determination regarding the deferment matter about which a memorandum had been furnished to Dr. Auchter. He said he felt now that the rubber hearing was out of the way, he hoped to contact Dr. Auchter in the next day or two regarding this question. It was also pointed out to Dr. May by Dr. Skinner the embarrassment of not having a definite understanding and procedure regarding moving to Beltsville and vacating the South Building. It was suggested that the matter be again called to Dr. Auchter's attention. The matter was discussed with Dr. Skinner by Dr. Auchter last Friday, at which time Dr. Auchter had

signified his intention to come over to talk the matter over for final determination. It is intended to call Dr. Auchter about this matter the first thing Wednesday morning.

Dr. Hilbert said he had had a letter from Dr. Sparks about the possibility of his return to the NRRL and that Dr. Sparks had advised him that he was now in Baton Rouge putting up a butyl rubber plant which made it impossible for him to give any consideration to the matter.



Dr. Skinner and Mr. Donovan discussed the matter which had been received from the Bureau of the Budget authorizing the funds for moving the laboratories from Washington. It was agreed that Mr. Donovan would again talk with Mr. Schoenhals about Dr. Auchter's conference on the matter.

Dr. Balls discussed with Dr. Skinner the probable cancellation of both his and Mr. Tucker's trip to Albany until perhaps some time in May.

Dr. Stevens brought in the revised draft of the letter to Mr. Fulmer which Dr. Skinner felt should be revised in certain parts because he anticipated that the letter might be used by Mr. Fulmer in some type of publicity, perhaps publication in the Congressional Record, and he wanted to get the language clear and without ambiguity.

Mr. Herrick called to suggest the desirability of Dr. Hilbert coming on to Washington at the time Dr. Cowan came. Mr. Herrick thought the trip would be fully justified because it would give him an opportunity to discuss some of the recent developments at the laboratory. (Dr. Hilbert was advised by telegram to report. He replied that he would do so and would arrive Tuesday morning, March 16)

Mr. Detwiler brought in a report requested by Mr. Cardon and after some minor corrections it was prepared and sent over to Dr. Auchter's office by messenger.

Dr. Skinner was summoned to Dr. Auchter's office about 4:30, where he remained until 7 o'clock, discussing the transfer of laboratories and personnel from Washington, as contemplated in the letter received from the Bureau of the Budget. Besides Dr. Auchter and Dr. Skinner, Mr. Cardon, Dr. May and Mr. Donovan were present at this discussion. Dr. Auchter stated it was his interpretation and that of Mr. Jump's office that the funds could not be utilized for any move to Beltsville. He at first stated that he thought the funds could only be used as set up in the memorandum submitted by him, the acceptance of which is noted

by the Bureau of the Budget letter. This was argued at some length by Dr. Skinner who said that interpretation was too conservative and that it could not be conceived from an administrative policy that a better arrangement that was more efficient or more economical could not be considered. Dr. Auchter finally agreed to this but said that any change would have to be cleared in Mr. Jump's office. He said he was willing to go along with any suggestions made by Dr. Skinner, provided it could be cleared in the Department and did not need a reconsideration by the Bureau of the Budget, an appeal which he said he would not undertake to make. Dr. Skinner pointed out that in the proposed transfers, which were submitted in response to his request, had been prepared for the purpose of making an estimate of funds and did not necessarily dispose of the matter finally. He pointed out that some of the microbiological force could not properly operate in the Eastern region if the sugar work was consolidated in the Southern; that the work of Mr. Hall and his assistants was wholly upon the bacteriology of sugar products and would of necessity have to go to New Orleans. Dr. Skinner was told by Dr. Auchter to discuss the proposed transfer with both Dr. Balls and Mr. Paine, but specifically stated that he wanted these discussions to be on a confidential basis. He would like to have the matter settled so that a public announcement may be made early next week.



Dr. Skinner attended the Red Cross meeting held in the Agricultural Dept. auditorium.

Dr. Skinner discussed with Mr. Paine the proposed transfer of the larger part of his unit to New Orleans. He was advised of Dr. Auchter's injunction for secrecy. After discussing the matter with Mr. Paine, Dr. Skinner called Mr. Lynch and told him of the alternative propositions. Mr. Lynch stated he would be glad to have Mr. Paine told that if he would be happy to come to New Orleans Mr. Lynch would be delighted for him to do so under the conditions as outlined. Later, this was conveyed to Mr. Paine who seemed somewhat relieved at Mr. Lynch's attitude.

Dr. Stevens, & Mr. Donovan discussed with Dr. Skinner the new letter received from Mr. Fulmer which was sent with the original letter, together with the proposed reply to Mr. Fulmer, to Dr. Auchter under a cover letter advising that further and careful consideration should be given to the matter.// As directed by Dr. Auchter, Dr. Skinner discussed with Dr. Balls the proposed transfer of his unit out of Washington.

Dr. May called about the request from the Combined Food Board regarding the production and probable demand for pectin. Wires were prepared by Mr. Donovan for H. S. Bailey, T. L. Swenson and H. H. Mottern. This rush information is to be gotten to Dr. Auchter's office on Saturday.

Wires were received from Swenson and Speh urging action on allocation of WRRL funds for hemlock bark work. The matter was referred to Mr. Donovan for clearance.



Dr. Auchter asked Dr. Skinner to meet in his office with a group to discuss the proposed letter to Mr. Fulmer regarding the manufacture of paper from cotton. Dr. Auchter asked that Mr. Cheatham also come along. Dr. May, Dr. Winters, Dr. Forsling, Mr. Trayer and Mr. Cardon were also present. Dr. Auchter indicated that the letter prepared by BA&IC was not a tactful presentation of the matter and he had asked Dr. Winters to rewrite the proposed letter after a conference with the group which he had called together. He further stated that he thought the latter ought to be signed by the Secretary. After considerable discussion of the merits of the case and also the statement made by Mr. Trayer it was realized that we are in a rather delicate position in the presentation of any further statement to Mr. Fulmer. Apparently there was not an agreement on the part of Mr. Trayer and Dr. Forsling, and the statement in the letter prepared by Dr. Skinner and others - that there was room for further research. Dr. Skinner stated that in any manufacturing operation there would be laboratory control but this was not research as he understood it. Dr. Skinner maintained the position that it was not additional research that Mr. Fulmer required or had requested, but rather, the operation of a paper mill. There was considerable discussion of the report submitted by Dr. Forsling and Mr. Trayer in response to an inquiry by Sanator Bankhead and to which the BA&IC added a section about the use of corn stalks in the manufacture of paper. To carry out this investigation the Forest Service had estimated a need for \$745,000. This report was the subject of one or more conferences between Mr. Herrick and Dr. Forsling, but so far as the records show, nothing ever came of it. Dr. Auchter appointed a committee to draw up a letter and a statement to be submitted to Mr. Fulmer and suggested that he would try to have this presented to Mr. Fulmer by Assistant Secretary Hill. Dr. Auchter seemed very much disturbed at the reply which Dr. Skinner had received from Mr. Fulmer under date of March 10 in which he threatened if something was not done which he had asked to have done promptly, he would see to it that the appropriations were reduced. After further consideration Dr. Auchter decided he would try to have Mr. Hill present the matter on Wednesday and requested that the

data be in his hands by Tuesday afternoon.

Dr. J. W. Kellogg called and said he was trying to make contacts for a position with the Food and Drug Administration.

Dr. Skinner called Dr. May to advise that Dr. Hilbert and Dr. Cowan would be in on Tuesday. May had discussed this matter with Herrick and it was arranged for Hilbert to talk to Herrick first and to Dr. Cowan later.

Dr. Balls came in to discuss his trip to the ERRL. He stated that he did not believe the situation was so comfortable there for the development of his laboratory and suggested that the move should go through as originally planned - for his entire laboratory to be taken to the WRRL. Mr. Speh, who had just returned from his Western trip, advised that Dr. Swenson would be more than pleased to have Dr. Balls' laboratory transferred to Albany. It was decided therefore that the Enzyme Laboratory would be moved to Albany.

Mr. Paine came in to discuss with Dr. Skinner the proposition which had been under consideration for the transfer of a large part of his Division, as well as the Naval Stores division, to the SRRL. As a result of the conference with Mr. Paine, Dr. Donovan and Mr. Speh, the following was the sense of the conference:

It is understood that in the proposed move of certain sections of Mr. Paine's division to New Orleans, Mr. Paine has agreed to the proposal that he accept the position as Assistant Director of the SRRL. It was explained by Dr. Skinner that as a result of discussion in the office of Dr. Auchter there might be some difficulty in maintaining the position of Assistant Director in Grade P-7 and the new position might have to be set up in Grade P-6, as there was already a position of Assistant Director in the ERRL in which the grade has been fixed at P-6. Every effort is to be made to set up the position in P-7. Mr. Paine assented to the proposal, even though the position is finally allocated in Grade P-6. Dr. Skinner discussed the matter over long distance phone with Mr. Lynch who was enthusiastically in favor of Mr. Paine accepting the position with him as Assistant Director, his exact words being "If Mr. Paine can be happy in this position, I shall be happy to have him with us." An alternative which was discussed



was that Mr. Paine's headquarters be transferred to New Orleans, leaving him in Grade P-7 as Chief of Agr. Chem. Res. at that point, but this was regarded by the conference as undesirable. The relationship of Mr. Paine to Mr. Lynch and to the work was explored. In the position as Assistant Director he may be expected to have general supervision of the Naval Stores work in addition to that part of the agricultural chemical division which is moved to New Orleans, and such other duties as Mr. Lynch may determine. Mr. Paine raised the question which had been previously discussed with Dr. Auchter, Mr. Cardon and Dr. May about certain positions which are involved in the move from Washington which had been improperly assigned to other regional research laboratories but should go to the SRRL. This applies to Mr. Hall, the sugar bacteriologist, who is listed in the Microbiological Section, and to Dr. Ambler and to Mr. Kingsbury who had been tentatively assigned to the NRRL but have not been engaged on cellulose work for a number of years but had been engaged actively in the sugar work, particularly in the byproducts of sugarcane.

Mr. Donovan brought to Dr. Skinner's attention the final ~~decision~~ action of the Civil Service Commission on the appeal of his case which the Commission had approved. Dr. Skinner instructed him at once to send the necessary appointment papers to accomplish the recommendation of the Department and the decision of the Civil Service Commission.

Dr. Skinner discussed with Dr. Auchter the decision in regard to the removal of Dr. Balls' laboratory to the WRRRL and of Mr. Paine's transfer, with part of his laboratory, to New Orleans, and the arrangement in regard to his acceptance of the position of Assistant Director of the SRRL, as set forth above. Dr. Skinner read aloud this verbal agreement to Dr. Auchter, who gave his assent to it. Dr. Skinner raised the question of the allocation of Mr. Hall to the Eastern Laboratory and Dr. ~~Ambler~~ Ambler and Mr. Kingsbury to the Northern Laboratory, showing that this allocation is in error. Dr. Auchter indicated he had no objection to the change if it did not involve any complications either with Mr.

Jump's office or the Budget Bureau. Dr. Auchter said he would take it up immediately and make a determination so as to be ready for his statement to the group in the BA&IC which he proposed to make at 11:30 on the morning of March 17. (Time later changed to 12:30) Dr. Auchter suggested that it would not be necessary to call the entire group together but it would be well to bring in the heads of divisions and the first assistants, and this it was estimated would not be more than 20 people, and it was agreed to meet in Dr. Skinner's office in order for Dr. Auchter to make the necessary statement.



Mr. Speh, Mr. Cheatham and Dr. Skinner discussed at some length the proposed letter by the Secretary to Mr. Fulmer, and the accompanying statement. Dr. Skinner expressed the opinion that each of the proposed letters prepared by Dr. Winters were very weak and really begged the question, and he predicted they would not be satisfactory to Mr. Fulmer. Mr. Speh expressed the hope that we might work out some plan by which some work could be done at the SRRL to at least appease Mr. Fulmer. Dr. Skinner challenged this and pointed out that Mr. Fulmer had been put off by the Forest Service and by the Bureau of Standards, and now it is proposed to put him off by the BA&IC. Dr. Skinner thinks this is unwise, and even at the expense of exasperating and perhaps seriously aggravating Mr. Fulmer, Dr. Skinner felt that he should be told the whole truth, which is that there is no reasonable prospect of the successful economic employment of cotton in the manufacture of paper. However, Dr. Skinner said he recognized that this is a matter of expediency and it was for the Secretary or Dr. Auchter to decide what the tactics should be. Later in the afternoon Mr. Cheatham came in to discuss with Dr. Skinner his further review of the proposed letter and statement, and Dr. Skinner pointed out to Mr. Cheatham the specific weaknesses in each of them. Mr. Cheatham was to take up the matter further with Dr. Winters.

Dr. Hilbert came in to discuss the situation in regard to Dr. Cowan and then went to lunch with Dr. Skinner, Mr. Speh and Mr. Donovan, when it was still further discussed. It was decided to take the matter up immediately with Mr. Herrick and if possible report back to Dr. Skinner in the afternoon. Dr. Hilbert also reported on the situation in regard to the Argentine students, and other matters of interest in the NRRL.

Dr. Cowan came in to see Dr. Skinner after lunch and was told that the Bureau desired him to remain at the NRRL and would do everything in its power to make it worthwhile for him to do so. Dr. Skinner explained that if Mr. Herrick and Dr. Hilbert agreed with the proposition, it would probably mean that he would ultimately be expected for him to head up the Division. Dr. Cowan said he was pleased with this but was concerned as to



under whom he would be expected to work since Dr. Manley had left. Dr. Cowan brought up the question of his health and said that since ~~leaving~~ living in Peoria he had found it was an area in which the ragweed pollen is most serious; in fact, one of the most serious areas in the United States. As he is allergic to ragweed and other pollens, he did not know just how he was to stand up under the conditions. He is under the advice of a physician and will be guided by the results of the checks which are now being made. He said the position he is considering is in Minneapolis and it may be that this area is less hazardous for one developing an allergy. Dr. Skinner suggested it might be well for him to discuss the matter with Dr. Stevens, which he agreed to do. Dr. Cowan was to see Mr. Herrick the first thing Wednesday morning and he and Dr. Hilbert expect to return to Peoria Wednesday night.

By instructions of Dr. Auchter, Dr. Skinner discussed with Dr. Palkin, under the injunction of secrecy, the removal of the Naval Stores work to New Orleans. Mr. Speh was present at the conference. Dr. Palkin seemed very much discouraged at the prospect but finally indicated he would do his utmost to make the best of it. He was told that the announcement would not be made until 12:30 on Wednesday and he was not free to discuss it with his staff until after that time.

Dr. Hilbert and Mr. Speh discussed with Dr. Skinner the situation in regard to Dr. Cowan, and Dr. Hilbert reported on his talk with Mr. Herrick about the matter. Dr. Hilbert also discussed the byproduct feed recovery from the wheat alcohol distillation. Information in regard to the production of alcohol from damaged wheat which has been raised by Mr. Lemke was discussed and Dr. Hilbert agreed to send, immediately upon his return to Peoria, a full statement covering the matter, which may be sent to Mr. Lemke.

The decentralization of the Bureau's work was discussed with Dr. Hilbert and he was invited to attend the meeting at 12:30, at which time Dr. Auchter explained the whole situation to the Chiefs, assistant chiefs and other directing personnel of the Bureau. Dr. Auchter explained the decentralization of the Bureau and the transfer of the work to the several field laboratories. Dr. Auchter explained that certain of the units would be distributed to the several laboratories and read from a statement submitted by Dr. Skinner which had been prepared by Mr. Donovan in harmony with the discussion in Dr. Auchter's office on March 10. Dr. Auchter explained the changes that had occurred since this statement had been prepared, the principal items being that Mr. Hall, Dr. Ambler and Mr. Kingsburg would be detailed to the SRRL, and that the cereal work would not be assigned to the NRRL ~~but~~ the personnel distributed to the baking laboratories of the BPI. Dr. Auchter explained that in the detail of these several activities to the regional laboratories there would not be a coalescing of the work but that the units so transferred would maintain their identity under the Agricultural Chemical appropriation, <sup>but</sup> would report through the Chiefs of the respective <sup>regional</sup> laboratories. Numerous questions were asked by the group and answered by Dr. Auchter and by Dr. Skinner. Parts of the letter from Mr. Smith, Director of the Budget Bureau, were read.

Immediately after the meeting adjourned Dr. Skinner discussed with Dr. Auchter his apprehension about the proposed letter and memo to Mr. Fulmer. Dr. Skinner took issue with Dr. Forsling's idea that there was still a large amount of research work to be done and pointed out that in the program set up by Forsling and submitted to Senator Bankhead, he only provided \$60,000 of the \$745,000 asked for, and this was not



designated for research but for laboratory investigations. Dr. Skinner expressed the fear that Mr. Hill and Mr. Fulmer might decide on a large part of the \$745,000 program and that the SRRL would be expected to finance this out of its allotment for cotton work. Dr. Auchter seemed to think this might be a serious complication and indicated that he might discuss the matter further with Mr. Hill.

Dr. Balls and Dr. Skinner went to lunch and discussed the proposed move of his laboratory to Albany. He raised several questions about the consolidation of the work in the WRRL which involves the reorganization of the program formerly headed by Dr. Blish who has resigned. It was decided to call Dr. Swenson on long distance phone to straighten this out at once, if possible. The call was put in but Dr. Swenson was away from his office and will not return until tomorrow afternoon. It was decided to call Dr. Swenson the first thing Friday morning.

Immediately after lunch Dr. Skinner discussed with Mr. Hollingshead the proposed decentralization move and told him that it was expected that he would remain in Washington as a member of the staff of the Chief of the Bureau, giving special attention to the Eastern phase of dehydration work and answering correspondence and other inquiries regarding the general food production and processing problems.

Sidney Cates called and wanted to know when he could get a story on the new rubber program. He was told it was not ready but that he would be advised when he might have the data for an article in the Country Gentleman.

Mr. Herrick called and said he was hoping to get the permission of his doctor to return to Peoria on Monday, March 22. Dr. Skinner expressed apprehension that he was getting back to work too soon and suggested that he report instead to the Bureau in Washington and take a week to catch up on the work that has been going on during his illness. Dr. Skinner feels this is fully justified and urged him to make this arrangement.



Mr. Herrick agreed that this might be a better plan and said that he would report to the Bureau Monday morning. Mr. Donovan concurred in this and said he would make arrangements for an office and stenographer for his use.

Dr. Cowan called and said he had had a talk with Dr. Stevens and reported on his discussion with Mr. Herrick. It is my opinion that the trip here of Dr. Cowan and Dr. Hilbert was well justified by the results,

March 17, 1943

C. F. Speh

At 9:15 conferred with Dr. Skinner and Dr. Hilbert on plans for Northern Regional Laboratory. Also discussed need of agreement on coordination of wheat protein work between Northern and Western Laboratories.

At 10 conference with Mr. Ferris of U. S. Sugar Corp. and Mr. Paine on proposed cooperative agreement with U. S. Sugar Corp., Bur. Plant Industry and Bur. Animal Industry on sweetpotatoes for cattle feed and starch. It was agreed that within the next few days we would work with Paine and McPhee on the preparation of a cooperative agreement.

At 10:30 in Dr. Woodbury's office conferred with C. H. Burchenal, Cambridge Tile Mfg. Co., Cincinnati, Ohio. Mr. Burchenal is interested in compression of dried foods. They are working on a preparation of mixture of eggs and carrots. He had already seen Mr. Paine in connection with work the Bureau is doing on compression of cereals. He was brought over to see Mr. Hollingshead for a further talk and it was also arranged for him to see Mr. Reed to discuss the use of tile in construction of food driers.

Mr. Donovan, Dr. Balls and Dr. Skinner discussed the proposed move of the Enzyme Laboratory to the WRRL, with particular to disposition of fixed equipment and heavy equipment, such as the ultracentrifuge.

Dr. May called to discuss with Dr. Skinner a letter which he (May) had received from ~~ENRY~~ Major-General Gregory about the transfer of Mr. Hollingshead to aid Dr. Blanck in the subsistence and research work in the Quarter-master General's office under Col. Doriot. Dr. May expressed his disapproval of transfers and Dr. Skinner told him that he also felt the same way about it and had already insisted that Dr. Ballou (WRRL) resign rather than be transferred to Dr. Richard's work. Dr. May desired to know just what commitments Mr. Hollingshead had made to Dr. Blanck about the transfer and Dr. Skinner promised to discuss the matter with Mr. Hollingshead who stated that Dr. Blanck had offered him a position in the P-6 grade and that he was inclined to accept it. Mr. Hollingshead stated that he did not see any future for him in this Bureau and that he felt poor use was being made of his knowledge and experience. He preferred to be in a more active organization where outside contacts would make better use of his knowledge. Dr. Skinner told Mr. Hollingshead that he wished he had known how he felt about it and of his having made contact with Dr. Blanck before, because in that case he could have perhaps switched Hollingshead to New Orleans and left von Loesecke here to take over the staff work. Dr. Skinner remarked that he did not believe Mr. Hollingshead had been very frank ~~and went to the~~ about the matter. Mr. Hollingshead made the very obvious reply that in the whole change in the work of the Bureau he felt he was just about as frank with the administration as the administration had been with him, and Dr. Skinner remarked he guessed that was a fact, but pointed out the injunction for secrecy which had been imposed on the officers of the Bureau and was not of their own choice.

There was a ~~called~~ call on the phone for Dr. Skinner by Mr. W. B. Camp who introduced himself as Chairman of the Kern County Dehydration Company which was putting up a dehydrater at Bakersfield, Calif. Mr. Camp was very loud in his praise of the splendid service which had



been rendered to him by Van Arsdel, Hemmeter  
Mr. Camp said that they were building a number of dehydraters which had been estimated by Van Arsdel to take care of from 150 to 180 tons of green material per day; that the company had contracts through Col. Logan with the Quartermaster's Department for their entire output; that the company was organized with 14 Directors all of whom were largely interested in farming operations around Bakersfield, and most of the produce used by the plant was to be contracted for with these people. A general program of vegetable dehydration was contemplated upon such products as could be grown in that area, mostly cabbage, spinach and carrots. Mr. Camp said that one of his prominent collaborators, a member of his Board of Directors, was Mr. DeGeorgia of the DeGeorgia Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Corp. of Calif. Mr. Camp said that he was a Clemson college man and I believe he said that he was a classmate or collegemate of Joe Cheatham with whom he had had lunch the day before. He expressed his regret at not being able to contact Dr. Skinner for lunch or dinner but said he would endeavor to do so on his next visit to Washington. He especially wants Dr. Skinner to spend some time with him at Bakersfield if Dr. Skinner makes the trip to the West Coast during the latter part of April.//Mr. Camp said he would like to have it regarded as confidential, but he had under consideration the appointment of Hemmeter as superintendent of the plant at Bakersfield. He said this was very much the desire of Hemmeter who had been urging that he be given the opportunity. Mr. Camp said that he had decided that he would not take Mr. Hemmeter as he did not feel that he wishes to be in the position of pirating on the staff of the Government in this emergency. He was told by Dr. Skinner that he was at liberty to consider the matter with Mr. Hemmeter if he so desired since it is now pretty certain that Mr. Van Arsdel will not leave and that the work would not be crippled if Mr. Hemmeter should accept the position, and that we were very anxious to see the plant at Bakersfield a success because it was the first complete installation of the type of dehydrater developed by Mr. Chace, Mr. Van Arsdel and Mr. Hemmeter at Albany. Mr. Camp said that

he had today made Dr. E. H. Wahls of the Experiment Station at Clemson College, superintendent of the new plant. He said that while he was sure Mr. Hemmeter could handle the plant alright, that he was of the opinion - which was confirmed after he reached Washington - that he ought to have a man in charge who is pretty well versed in agricultural problems.

Dr. Auchter, Mr. Donovan and Mr. Speh came in to discuss the results of the meeting held just immediately before in Mr. Jump's office concerning the plans for moving the laboratories out of Washington. At the meeting members of Mr. Thatcher's office and the PBA were present. Dr. Auchter again expressed disapproval of moving more than a very limited amount of permanent fixtures out of the South Bldg. He was again told that there were several rooms in the regional laboratories that had not been fitted up and that provision had only been made in the estimate for 6 or 8 rooms and that upon further consideration this could probably be reduced to 5, but this could not be determined until contact was made with the Directors of the Western and Eastern Laboratories. It was understood that this would be done by telephone immediately.

Dr. LeClerc came in to discuss the possibility of moving his unit to the new Bureau of Human Nutrition and Home Economics. He was advised that the matter had been settled and that his personnel would be allocated to work in the BPIS&AE. He was told by Dr. Skinner that he had not been asked about the assignment which was originally made in Dr. Auchter's office, but when he learned of it he raised the question with Dr. Auchter as to whether it would not be better to transfer the cereal division to the new Bureau of Human Nutrition. Dr. Auchter insisted that this would be unwise because the money was appropriated for the specific object of cereal chemistry and he thought it should be maintained as such. He did not feel that the money could be used for any other purpose than cereal chemistry.

Mr. Bill White of the Bureau of Entomology called to congratulate Dr. Skinner on his appointment as Chief and talked over personal matters, and incidentally mentioned the fact that Lt. Bill Cory, youngest son of Dr. E. N. Cory of the Univ. of Md. is reported as



missing in action in Tunisia. Dr. Skinner should try to confirm this and write a note to Dr. Cory.

Dr. Skinner asked the Division Chiefs and first assistants of each unit, together with Dr. Stevens, Mr. Teuton Mr. Wolfe, Miss Prienkert, Mr. Jack, Mr. Speh and Mr. Donovan to meet with him to discuss the details of the decentralization move and to give Mr. Donovan a chance to discuss information which was conveyed to him at the morning meeting in Mr. Jump's office. Dr. Skinner instructed the Division Chiefs to proceed at once to close up their active lines of experimental work and that this should be entirely completed by March 31. He pointed out that there was a certain amount of special equipment such as spectrometers, polariscopes, etc. that would be necessary for the chemists themselves to dismantle and reassemble when they reached their destination. This it is planned to do immediately after April 1 and should be completed by April 15. It is expected that the contractors for the moving will come in and start on or about April 15. Dr. Skinner explained that the contract with PBA contemplated dismantling of the laboratories, packing of the equipment and erecting in the quarters at the several destinations in the same manner in which it was dismantled and in which it now stands in the South Bldg. It was explained that PBA takes entire responsibility for this move. A similar plan is provided for the moving of the household goods of those who have such property to be moved. Other details of the plan were explained by Mr. Donovan and circulars of instruction were given to each person present. It was suggested that group meetings be held and the Chiefs of Divisions transmit this information to each employee. Dr. Skinner suggested that the heads of divisions and sections, and perhaps most of the scientific personnel would wish to time their personal travel so as to be present at the destination when the laboratory material arrives and might be expected to give general supervision to its location in the new quarters. Dr. Skinner emphasized the statement of Dr. Auchter at the meeting on Wednesday, the 17th, that these several divisions were being transferred to the regional labora-



tories but would retain their identity and that there would not be a coalescing of the different lines of work. The chiefs of the several reassigned units however are to report to the Chief of the Bureau directly through the regional laboratory director who is, of course, senior Bureau officer in the field setup. Dr. Skinner expressed the opinion that all of these units would receive a hearty welcome from the director and other personnel of the regional laboratories and he was expecting a very satisfactory housing arrangement to be developed.

Meeting in Dr. Skinner's office at 3 P.M.

Present: Dr. Skinner, Mr. Speh, Mr. Donovan, Dr. Balls,  
Mr. Paine, Dr. Palkin and Miss Prienkert

After consulting with the three Division Chiefs, it was agreed that all lines of work should be stopped as of March 31.

It was further agreed that as of April 1 dismantling of such apparatus as is necessary to be done by the scientists should begin, and the laboratories be prepared to have the equipment thereof ready for moving by April 15.

With reference to the files, it was decided that only those portions of the Central files should be pulled out as are absolutely essential to carrying on the work at the new location, and all such material should be duplicated so as to maintain the Central file intact.

Each Division Chief will determine what, if any, samples of work or exhibits are to be left in Washington.

The Division Chiefs were told that full instructions for moving household goods would be furnished to each employee affected.

Mr. Speh, Mr. Donovan and Dr. Skinner discussed the location of the several groups in the regional laboratories and first called Dr. Wells on long distance, asking him what specific rooms were to be assigned to the microbiological unit which is to go to Philadelphia. Dr. Wells indicated certain space on the third floor which was marked on the floor plan by Donovan. Dr. Wells said that two of these rooms were not equipped and that he would need one center table, three side tables and one hood (?) to properly equip the space. Office space would be provided in the main head house. The Southern Laboratory was then called and Mr. Gastrock was asked the same questions as Dr. Wells but was unable to give very much information since the matter had not been discussed with him by Mr. Lynch. An estimate of the required space was given to him and he said he would immediately contact Mr. Lynch who was away on leave of absence. Later, Dr. Swenson called and the matter of the housing of the Enzyme Laboratory was very thoroughly discussed with him by Dr. Skinner, Dr. Balls and Mr. Donovan. He said he would call back at 4 o'clock and give the exact space assigned to the work, which he did. He said he would need 3 center tables.

Dr. Skinner advised Dr. May of the discussion with Mr. Hollingshead and Dr. May said that he was writing the letter for the Secretary's signature declining to transfer Mr. Hollingshead and insisting that if it was necessary for him to accept the position with Dr. Blanck that he should resign in order that the place might be filled in the Department.

Dr. Skinner discussed with L. S. Stuart the arrangements of the space which Dr. Wells proposed to allot to the microbiological unit. It was first thought that Mr. Stuart might go immediately to Philadelphia, but this was not considered expedient since Dr. Wells will be here Monday morning, when he, Mr. Speh, Mr. Donovan, Mr. Stuart and Dr. Skinner may go over the matter. Dr. Skinner discussed with Mr. Stuart at some length the progress of the work of his division, especially as it relates to the dried egg activity in cooperation with the FDA. Mr. Stuart said he had been contacted the day before by Mr. Termohlen and asked what the move in the BIAC meant and how it would be possible for him to



continue the cooperative work if he were moved to Philadelphia. Mr. Stuart told him that he presumed some of it would have to be dropped. Especially that type of the work which contemplated the examination of the fresh eggs from Beltsville which are supposed to have laboratory attention within a few hours after being laid. Mr. Stuart expressed some doubt about the space allotted in the Philadelphia Laboratory being sufficient to serve the number of people who were engaged on their projects but admitted if the cooperative work were discontinued it would materially alter the situation. Mr. Stuart discussed briefly the difficulties that had been encountered in the dried egg work and stated that some very ~~xxxxxxx~~ terrible stuff had been sent to England under the lend lease program. He said some of the material after arriving in England had been condemned and denatured. The British very seriously object to the egg which is infected with Salmonella. According to Stuart there is quite a dispute between the English authorities and the American authorities about the significance of Salmonella in dried eggs. Stuart says there are about 60 species of Salmonella which includes polarinarium and gallanarium, also types resembling paratyphoid and enteriditus. Mr. Stuart told of a large quantity of frozen egg which had been bought by SMA and then found to be so bad that it could not be used in the lend lease shipments. This product was ~~very~~ offered for sale and was sold by the Government "as is" - a very questionable proceeding, and was purchased by the Borden Company. This particular frozen egg was then thawed and spray dried by the Borden Company and offered for sale and was immediately siezed and destroyed by the Food and Drug Administration. According to Stuart, upon a threat by the Borden Company to enter suit against the SMA for selling to them material unfit for food, the matter was adjusted by returning a considerable portion - an amount unknown to him - of the purchase price. This seems to be a very questionable deal on the part of the Government. Mr. Stuart explained that the foul types of Salmonella represented by ~~paratyphoid and galli~~ polarinarium and gallanarium are regarded as non-pathogenic to man, while paratyphoid and enteriditus are considered pathogenic. The English maintain that any of the Salmonella are significant and have attempted to embargo eggs seriously infected by these organisms of whatever

type. Mr. Stuart told about the conference which had been attended by him, Termohlen, the British Commission represented by Dr. Hanes and others. He said that Dr. Hanes had asked him to submit in writing the statement which he had made to the conference regarding his work on Salmonella. This he did in a letter to Dr. Hanes, a carbon copy of which was sent to Dr. Skinner and Dr. Woodbury. Later at a conference in Dr. Woodbury's office, Stuart reported that he was considerably embarrassed by being put through a third degree by Dr. Dyke of the Univ. of Chicago and Mr. Woodbury, at which time Woodbury wanted to know by what authority he was doing any work on Salmonella anyway, what business the BAIC has in this field. Stuart said he attempted to explain the best he could the cooperative arrangement which was entered into by the microbiological unit of this Bureau and the egg dehydration unit of Mr. Termohlen of the original SMA. Stuart expressed to Dr. Skinner his embarrassment at being expected to defend a position which ought to be determined by administrative officials. Mr. Stuart expressed the opinion that there might be a big scandal developing in the whole egg procurement work and he felt that there was a great deal of confusion in the way the whole thing is being handled under lend lease.

Dr. Skinner discussed further with Mr. Hollingshead the situation as regards his possible transfer. Mr. Hollingshead stated that if May's position prevailed, which would deny him the privilege of returning to this Bureau after the duration, then he would refuse to go with Dr. Blanck. Dr. Skinner told him of the plan to organize the staff of the BIAC and that he expected the positions to be put in the P-6 grade, but he could make no promise of that. However, the fact that Mr. Cheatham was in P-7, Mr. Senseman in P-6 and Mr. Teuton in P-6, there would be a very potent argument to have the other two positions - that of him and Holman - also placed in P-6. Dr. Skinner called Dr. May and advised him of what Mr. Hollingshead had said.



Dr. Skinner accompanied by Mr. Speh and Mr. Donovan visited separately the enzyme group, the Naval stores group and the ACR group, and discussed briefly the plans in so far as we know now for the move of the laboratories and personnel to the several field destinations. The purpose of making these statements was to assure each and every one of the personal interest which the administration officers of the Bureau have in the individual members of the personnel. Dr. Skinner repeatedly stated that the Bureau officers would do everything possible and he felt the same would be done by the PBA to make the distressing change for some of them just as comfortable and as easy as possible.

Mr. Devivo of Mr. Thatcher's office came in to discuss with Mr. Donovan, Mr. Speh and Dr. Skinner some phases of the moving ~~xxxxxxxxxx~~ plans. He also distributed certain material which he had received from the PBA.



Dr. Yanovsky came in to discuss the possibility of his work being assigned to the ERRL. He explained about the four or more years experience which he has had as a rubber chemist and wonders if his services could not be utilized in the rubber program. He was told by Dr. Skinner that the matter would be taken up with Dr. Wells upon his arrival Monday.

Mr. George P Walton came in to discuss with Dr. Skinner the possibility of reviving the honey work and asked if there would be any objection to the transfer of himself to the Bureau of Entomology to work with Mr. Hambleton. Dr. Skinner explained to him that he would interpose no objection to his accepting a position with Mr. Hambleton but that he could not agree to recommend any allotment of funds to carry on such work in honey chemistry since the Budget Bureau had specifically denied the Bureau of Chemistry such funds two years ago. Mr. Walton said he knew about that and recognized that that was the situation. Dr. Skinner explained to him that he could not initiate such a move with Dr. Auchter and explained the reason, which Mr. Walton clearly understood. He said however he would do everything he could to further a transfer, but that Mr. Annand and Mr. Hambleton would have to provide the funds and make the request of Dr. Auchter for such transfer of personnel.

Dr. Palkin discussed with Dr. Skinner the proposed move of his unit to New Orleans and was asked to consider the very minimum space which was needed to accommodate his unit. Dr. Skinner pointed out that <sup>in</sup> the allocation of space for occupancy in the Regional Laboratories it was the endeavor to allocate the space as near as possible in harmony with the departmental formula.

Mr. Lynch, Mr. Donovan, Mr. Speh and Dr. Skinner discussed practically all the morning and afternoon the allocation of rooms and the type of equipment which it would be necessary to remove from the laboratories in Washington. In the afternoon Dr. Wells joined in the discussion.

Mr. Lynch discussed with Mr. Gastrock over long distance phone the allotment of rooms and the placing of equipment.

Late in the afternoon Mr. Donovan and Miss Prienkert were called to Dr. Auchter's office to discuss certain phases of the moving to the field and to consider some of the financial adjustments which would have to be made.

Mr. Herrick reported for duty this morning and seemed to be in fit condition. It is planned to have him remain in Washington until about the end of the month.

Tuesday, March 23, 1943

Mr. Donovan discussed with Dr. Skinner the results of the conference with the business group in Dr. Auchter's office and told of the determination of Dr. Auchter to hasten the move of dismantling and packing, or at least the setting of the material up in such a fashion that the representatives of the PBA can survey the material and write up the necessary specifications for the moving contract. He announced that it was determined that the representative of the PBA would come to the Bureau at 9:30 on Wednesday and start the preliminary survey.

Dr. Skinner called Dr. Balls, Mr. Paine and Dr. Palkin in and told them of the decision to hasten the move and there was a lively discussion as to how best to pack the very valuable scientific equipment involved. It was the general consensus of Balls, Paine and Palkin that an expert in dismantling and reerecting scientific equipment such as balances, spectometers, polariscopes should be required to take the responsibility for such work. Mr. Paine made one reservation in regard to the very expensive polariscope which has been put in condition by Dr. Yanovsky and he feels that Dr. Yanovsky should take this instrument down and be permitted to go to New Orleans to erect it.



Mr. Reed discussed with Dr. Skinner the possibility of his transfer to another unit in the Department and was told that the Bureau would interpose no objection.

Mr. Kingsburg discussed with Dr. Skinner the possibility of his transfer to the Forest Products Laboratory at Madison and said that he had discussed it with some of the forestry people and that they desired to have him accept the position. He desires to do this as it will permit him to finish his education, which he has not been able to do since he came to the Bureau. He was told by Dr. Skinner that no objection would be interposed to his transfer.

Mr. Teuton discussed with Dr. Skinner the proposed meeting of the Agricultural Experiment Station Directors at the several regional laboratories this Spring and undertook to get together some data from each of the laboratories that Dr. Skinner might use for his talk before the groups. Mr. Teuton explained that two parts of the proposed manual on dehydration had been about completed but that the additional part was very slow in being developed. When asked why the material had not been presented to the Bureau as had been agreed upon, he simply said that Mr. Chace and Mr. Van Arsdell could not be persuaded to get the thing done. He was told if the material is not ready by May 1, in Dr. Skinner's opinion, it will be of very little value this year.

Mr. Wells came in to discuss the arrangements of the rooms in Philadelphia to accommodate the microbiological unit, and stated that he had been over the plans with Mr. Stuart. He suggest that Stuart return to Philadelphia with him the latter part of the week to make a personal inspection.

Discussions in regard to the allocation of space in the regional laboratories were continued with Dr. Skinner, Mr. Donovan, Mr. Speh and Mr. Lynch. A wire for certain material was sent to Swenson, and Lynch and Donovan talked over long distance phone with Gastrock.



Meeting held in Dr. Auchter's office at 10:20.

Present: Dr. Auchter, Mr. Schoenhals, Mr. Smoot, Mr. Donovan, Miss Prienkert

Dr. Auchter wanted to know if move to the four regional laboratories could start before the move to Beltsville. Mr. Donovan answered "Yes." Dr. Auchter then stated that we should have segregated in different rooms all equipment which is to go to the different laboratories. In other words, we should be able to say that everything in this particular room will go to the Eastern Laboratory; all in this, will go to the Western Laboratory, etc. He said we should prepare a list of fixed and nonfixed equipment for each laboratory, giving on the list the room numbers in which the equipment for the respective laboratories is to be found. Dr. Auchter further stated that the Cereal Section is to be transferred to BPI under the direction of Dr. McCall.

(Dictated from notes made at the conference)

By appointment, Dr. Sando called to see Dr. Skinner at 11 o'clock. Because of an unfinished conference with Mr. Teuton, he did not get in to see Dr. Skinner until two minutes after eleven. When he came in, Dr. Skinner got up and greeted him and remarked about his improved looks. Dr. Skinner told him at once that he could only talk with him for fifteen minutes because Dr. Wells had an appointment at 11:15 to discuss some of the urgent questions about moving a group to Philadelphia. Dr. Sando started off the conversation in his usual offensive manner. He was asked to have a chair, but without sitting down he opened the conversation by remarking that he had hoped to have a chance to discuss matters with Dr. Skinner without being "run out on", as had been the case in his last conference in July. Dr. Skinner at once challenged this and said he never ran out on anybody and pointed out that on the particular occasion to which he referred, he came in to see Dr. Skinner with Mr. Paine, and was told before he came in that in half an hour Dr. Skinner had a conference which he must keep. Dr. Skinner recalled the fact to him that he kept the man waiting for fifteen minutes, although both Paine and Sando knew the man was waiting, and that there was no running out on him in any way. Dr. Sando immediately entered into an harangue about the injustice and incompetent management in calling him back to Washington and asserted that the officials must have known that he had to return to California when the telegram of Feb. 26 was sent to him. An attempt was made to explain to him the situation under which the rearrangement of the Bureau had been made and he was specifically told of the injunction by Dr. Auchter that the matter was not to be discussed with anyone except those whom Dr. Auchter preferred to know about it. Dr. Sando then continued to harangue about the injustice of the way he had been treated by the Bureau in requiring him to dispose of his property in Berkeley, to use up his auto tires, to leave his recently married daughter in Berkeley, to the subjecting his wife to the ordeal of a motor trip across the country, and other personal matters. When some of this was challenged by Dr. Skinner as being personal and not official, Dr. Sando became very offensive, accusing the Bureau



officials of "inhumanity", stating that "they had it in for him" and much more of the same character. Dr. Skinner told him that he was insulting by impugning his motives, his intelligence and his good will, and said he was tired of being insulted every time Sando came into his office. Dr. Sando insisted that he did not intend to be insulting and got up and offered to shake hands with Dr. Skinner, which Dr. Skinner did. Dr. Sando then took another tack and blamed Mr. Speh for coming to California, and as he expressed it - "seeing him" and failing to tell him nothing about the expectation of his return to California, thereby permitting him to unnecessarily bring his wife back to Washington and to use up the tires on his automobile. Dr. Skinner told him that when Mr. Speh left here the final determination as to where his work was to be assigned had not been made. He told him further that the determination was not finally made until after the telegram had been sent him on Feb. 26, and ~~that~~ Dr. Skinner read a part of the letter to Mr. Harold Smith of the Budget Bureau dated March 3, in confirmation of his statement. Dr. Sando was asked the question as to who he expected to pack up his laboratory stuff and supervise its moving if he had not returned to Washington, and Dr. Skinner stated that he presumed the same was true of his personal belongings. Dr. Skinner explained that headquarters of Dr. Sando had always been in Washington and that it was desirable and necessary that he return here, as recommended by Dr. Swenson in his letter of February 5 received on February 8. Dr. Skinner pointed out that a reasonable time was taken to consider the matter and the telegram and records show that the matter was decided upon shortly after February 11 when Dr. Skinner and Mr. Donovan had their first conference about it, and the telegram to Dr. Swenson was dated February 26. Dr. Sando then switched the subject to the inefficiency of operation and the improper expenditure of funds in the prosecution of the dehydration work. He seemed to assume that it was his responsibility that this work should be developed on a certain level. Dr. Skinner challenged this statement and told him it was not the responsibility of Dr. Sando to determine the effectiveness of the dehydration program which had been approved by Dr. Knight, and that he did not care to have



any comment about it from him impugning the motives of Dr. Knight, because he did not think Dr. Sando was in any position to offer worthwhile comment about the policy involved in setting up and aiding the work. In the heated discussion which followed, Dr. Sando made serious charges against the efficiency of the way the work was handled, what should have been done and what ought to be done next, especially the action of Dr. Knight in appointing the Dehydration Committee. Finally, when Dr. Skinner pressed him for any evidence he had, Dr. Sando stated that he presumed he did not have very much legal evidence but he had his opinion. Dr. Skinner told him at this point that that was always the case with any kind of libel or slander - that it was difficult to prove either pro or con. Dr. Skinner told him it was very unbecoming in him to make such charges, he should submit them in writing to the Chief of the Bureau for consideration. For the first time, Dr. Sando offered his apology if he had in any way been offensive and made the remark that Dr. Skinner was one man that he found it difficult to keep in step with. To which Dr. Skinner replied that of about one thousand people in the Bureau, the thousand apparently agree with Dr. Skinner, therefore all of them must be out of step except Sando himself. Sando made the positive statement that he would not go back to the WRRRL and when he was asked to what laboratory he would prefer to go, he said he would not go to any of them but that he would go to Beltsville. He was told by Dr. Skinner that the whole Beltsville matter was completely out at this time and Dr. Skinner explained to him meticulously that the money which had been set up for the move to Beltsville and which was still on our books, had been declared by the Solicitor unavailable for any move to Beltsville. This did not seem to impress Dr. Sando and he asserted that he guessed if the desire was to go to Beltsville, it could be arranged. He then said that he would prefer to go to one of the other units in the Dept. of Agriculture and asked Dr. Skinner if he would interpose any objection to such a transfer and was told by Dr. Skinner that he would not only not interpose any

objection but would do everything in his power to aid and abet him in securing a position in any other unit of the Dept. of Agriculture, and Dr. Skinner also said he would aid him in securing a position outside of the Department that seemed desirable to him - that he would be glad to give him a letter setting forth his abilities. Dr. Sando then said he had taken the matter up with someone in one of the other units and Dr. Skinner is under the impression it is the FPA. Dr. Sando then said he had taken up the matter with someone in one of the other units and Dr. Skinner is under the impression it is permitted to take all of the equipment out of this Bureau which had heretofore been assigned to his section. Dr. Skinner said he would not agree to anything of the kind, certainly not <sup>until</sup> after the survey had been made and that the disposition of Government property allotted to this Bureau would have to be determined from a business and legal standpoint and would largely be the business of Mr. Donovan. Dr. Sando said he had been offered a flattering position on the outside and that he was thinking very seriously of taking it.

Dr. Sando then reverted to his personal situation in Albany and said that the Bureau had permitted him to dispose of his property in Albany when he could have easily advised him to the contrary. He said he had disposed of his property to great personal disadvantage announcing that his daughter had recently been married to one of the young engineers of the staff and that the trip back to Washington had caused him to break up an arrangement which he could not reconstruct upon his return to Albany, even if he should want to do so. He made the statement that he had also removed his household goods back with him but this was not understood by Dr. Skinner and was not inquired into. There is no evidence in our record that he was authorized to move his household effects to Albany. Dr. Sando advised that upon learning that Dr. Auchter was to be in Albany in December, he had prepared a four page, single space report on the situation in Albany to Dr. Auchter, in which report he requested to be relieved



of his duties in Albany and transferred to the Bureau of Plant Industry. Dr. Sando asserted that Dr. Auchter agreed to take the matter up with Dr. Skinner upon his return to Washington and he inquired rather pointedly whether Dr. Auchter had ever done so and was told by Dr. Skinner that he had not - that there had been no discussion of any reallocation of Dr. Sando to BPI by Dr. Auchter and Dr. Skinner. He then said that he had received a letter from Dr. Auchter some time in January in which Dr. Auchter asserted that the matter had been cancelled and that there was no place for him in BPI. Dr. Sando stated that since his return to Washington, among others he had consulted about his situation was Dr. Woodbury and he had been told by Dr. Woodbury to hold matters in abeyance for 3 or 4 days - that perhaps he (Woodbury) would be able to do something for him.

Dr. Skinner then told Dr. Sando in summing up the matter that it was reduced to three propositions: (1) that if he preferred to go to any other laboratory than the Western, he was to immediately submit to Dr. Skinner a request in writing, with the argument for the change, and Dr. Skinner told him that he would transmit the request to Dr. Auchter after discussing the matter with Mr. Speh and Mr. Donovan. Dr. Sando was told however that this must be done immediately as things were moving rapidly as to transfers and the representative of PBA was expected to come to the Bureau with Mr. Schoenhals, Mr. Donovan and Mr. Speh to make a preliminary survey at 9:30 Wednesday morning. (2) Dr. Skinner again re-asserted, so that there could be no mistake about it, that the Bureau would interpose no objection to his transfer to any other unit in the Department of Agriculture or in the Government service, but that Dr. Skinner would not undertake the initiative in any such move.

(3) Dr. Sando was told by Dr. Skinner that the Bureau would interpose no objection to his transfer to private industry and that he would be given every aid and support in securing a position to his liking.

At this point, 11:25, Dr. Skinner closed the discussion, pointing out to Dr. Sando that he had already kept Dr. Wells waiting ten minutes in the anteroom, and did not think it was fair to make him wait any longer. In leaving the room, Dr. Sando again offered apology for any seeming discourtesy, as none was intended.



Mr. Donovan, Mr. Speh and Dr. Skinner discussed a statement by Riley that appeared in the morning Times-Herald which criticizes the Department for the unwarranted transfer of Dr. Sando. (No name mentioned in the article)

Dr. Skinner called Mr. Hall and Mr. Stuart and asked them to get in touch with Dr. Wells in regard to the proper division of the microbiological laboratory material, some of which will go to Philadelphia and some to New Orleans.

At a conference with Dr. Balls at lunch, during which he explained the new development in the enzyme from wheat, he said that he was hastily getting together the material to be submitted for a patent on the process which removes the enzyme from wheat with a proper solvent. Then the starch may be saccharified and the enzyme put back, thus saving the treatment with barley malt in the mashing process. Dr. Balls stated that the enzyme content of wheat is considerably greater than that of barley and entirely sufficient for all of the saccharification of the starch in the wheat without the addition of malt.

Chas. J. Brand called to invite Dr. Skinner to dinner to meet the Secretary of Agriculture of Chile. Dr. Skinner declined because of his not accepting invitations during the evening because of his health.

Dr. Sando called and said he had had a 2 hours conference with Dr. May and wanted to know if it was possible for him to contact Dr. Wells. Dr. Wells was present in Dr. Skinner's office and said he would see Dr. Sando at 3:30. Later, Dr. Wells reported that he had talked with Sando who insisted on not going to Philadelphia except in a job which would put him in the P-6 grade. He said he would not go under any other conditions. Wells stated that no P-6 is available in the regular work of the laboratory and that it would be up to Dr. Skinner to decide whether the phytochemical work if transferred to the Philadelphia laboratory would justify a P-6 grade. Dr. Skinner told Dr. Wells he would talk further with Sando but he had no expectation that the phytochemical work would be graded in P-6.

Dr. Wells, Mr. Speh, Mr. Donovan and Dr. Skinner discussed the arrangement of the space in Philadelphia to house the microbiological unit and it was tentatively agreed that the personnel could be housed in 4 working units, Rooms Nos.

An additional special room for sterilizers would be provided if it was found that the sterilizing and incubating equipment could not be accommodated in rooms already set up for use in the ERRL. It was decided that Mr. Stuart would go to Philadelphia and look over the layout with Dr. Wells.

Mr. Fred Hughes of the SMA called Dr. Skinner to discuss the condition of the work on dried eggs under the contract between SMA and BAIC. Mr. Hughes wanted to know if the move to Philadelphia could be delayed because of this work and was told if he desired to discuss that he should take the matter up with Dr. Auchter's office. Upon further discussion he said he thought it would be desirable for he and Mr. Termohlen to come over to discuss the matter with Dr. Skinner and Mr. Stuart, and suggested 10 o'clock Saturday morning which was agreed to. Stuart and Paine were notified of this appointment.

About 5 o'clock Dr. Sando called and advised that he had talked with Dr. Wells and they had gotten nowhere. He said that he was not interested in going to Philadelphia except in a P-6 grade. Dr. Skinner reminded him that up to this time nothing had been said about grades and that he could not talk to him about it on this basis - that the important thing at the present time is the move and that the proper allocation of grades would have to be determined later. Dr. Sando said he was not interested in going to any of the laboratories and stated that he would not go to the Southern because he would not work with Dr. Markley. Dr. Skinner advised him therefore that if nothing was done that the laboratory, the work and the equipment would be transferred according to the plan, to the WRRL and after that was done, that would be his headquarters. Dr. Sando said he was going to sit tight and would not go anywhere and if Dr. Skinner wanted to file charges against him for insubordination that would be entirely to his liking. Dr. Skinner advised him that he had no intention of filing any charges of insubordination against him - that he did not intend to be mixed up in any such mess as that, and that his headquarters

would be moved according to plan to the WRRL and the choice would be his as to whether he would accept the position or not.



Mr. Allanson telephoned to me this afternoon to state that Mr. Salter had told him to tell me that Dr. Auchter had indicated that Mr. Noel was to remain with the Bureau of Agr. and Ind. Chemistry. Mr. Allanson said Dr. Auchter had told Mr. Salter that Mr. Noel's salary was being paid out of the meat dehydration fund on which project Mr. Noel had been engaged for a year. I informed Mr. Allanson that unless I was greatly mistaken Mr. Noel was not paid from the Department's meat dehydration fund but had been carried on the regular funds of the Bureau. I told Mr. Allanson that, as I had mentioned this to him before, this was due to the fact, as I understood it, that Dr. Auchter had agreed with the Budget Bureau when they made available the \$200,000 for meat dehydration work that he would not pay the salary of any regular Department employee who might be transferred to this work from this meat dehydration fund. Rather he would reserve that fund for new persons whom the Department might have to employ on meat dehydration.

Mr. Allanson asked me if I would not look into the matter and call him back which I said I would do. I confirmed my understanding with our Bookkeeping Section that Mr. Noel is not and never has been paid from the meat dehydration fund. I then called Mr. Schoenhals to ascertain whether he knew anything about the matter. He said he did not because, of course, he knew definitely that Mr. Noel's salary was not paid from the meat dehydration fund. Mr. Schoenhals said he would try to mention it to Dr. Auchter.

I explained to Mr. Schoenhals that I was calling him simply to be sure about Dr. Auchter's decision for Mr. Noel to remain in the Bureau of Agr. and Ind. Chemistry for, if it was predicated definitely on the fact that there was no salary payments being made from Bureau funds, he would presumably want to reconsider his decision.

Mr. Noel had been included in the Agricultural Engineering group transferred to the Bureau of Plant Industry, Soils and Agr. Engineering investigations were transferred February 14, 1943, because he is an engineer and was originally a part of the Chemical Engineering group which group had been immediately amalgamated under the Agricultural Engineering subappropriation item when the Agr.

Engineering investigations were transferred to and made a part of the new Bureau of Agr. and Chem. and Eng. in 1939. Mr. Schoenhals said he would talk to Dr. Auchter and let me know.

HW

Mr. Speh, Mr. Donovan and Dr. Skinner discussed the proposed letter to the Directors of the Agr. Exp. Stations about the meetings at the several laboratories. Dr. Skinner advised Mr. Speh to take up with Mr. Herrick a revision which Mr. Herrick has proposed. Mr. Speh said he would do this.

Mr. Stuart and Mr. Paine came in to discuss with Dr. Skinner the proposed transfer of the dried egg work to Philadelphia and how it would effect the Bureau's contractual relations with the SMA group. It was the opinion of Stuart and Paine that the work could be conducted in Philadelphia if the personnel could be retained. It was proposed to tell Termohlen that we would carry on as heretofore but could not undertake to do any additional work until after Dr. Goresline returns. Dr. Skinner decided to ask Mr. Woodbury to sit in on the conference at 10 o'clock on Saturday morning.

Dr. May came in at 11:15 and discussed at length with Dr. Skinner the charges which had been preferred by Dr. Sando against the way he had been treated, in general, by the Bureau, the specific mismanagement of the dehydration work and the most recent charge that he had been ill treated in being ordered to Washington with the prospect of his returning to San Francisco, which he said he would not do under any conditions. The case was reviewed at length by Dr. Skinner and upon the question put to Dr. May as to what Dr. Auchter wanted to do in the case, Dr. May replied that Dr. Auchter wanted to shut the matter up if possible ~~to~~ and to find some way of preventing Dr. Sando from spreading his statements about his treatment and the work. Dr. Skinner explained to Dr. May that Dr. Sando had told him he had talked the matter over with Dr. Woodbury who had advised him to let the matter rest for several days and that perhaps he (Woodbury) would be able to help him out in the matter. Dr. Skinner told Dr. May that Sando had said he had contacted others including Christy of the Foreign Relations office. Dr. Skinner asked Dr. May if he had come with any instructions from Dr. Auchter as to how he wanted the case handled, and stated specifically that he was perfectly satisfied for Woodbury or Auchter to take over the matter and dispose of it, that so far as he (Dr. Skinner) was concerned, any disposition



they made of it would be satisfactory to him. Dr. May said he did not think Dr. Auchter wished to take any such action, whereupon Dr. Skinner told Dr. May that this was not a matter that could be handled by several people who were willing to encourage Dr. Sando to vent his illwill and spleen, and that so far as he was concerned he would either handle the situation himself or he was determined it should be turned over to somebody who wished to do so. Later at lunch, with Mr. Donovan, Dr. May rather guardedly advanced the suggestion that one way out of the difficulty was to offer Dr. Sando a P-6 position which would perhaps quiet the whole situation. Neither Mr. Donovan or Dr. Skinner gave any assent or approval to the suggestion of Dr. May.

Mr. Herrick came in to tell Dr. Skinner he had just received advice that Dr. Cowan had decided to remain with the NRRL.

Dean Read of Rutgers called on Dr. Skinner and asked him to suggest someone to take a fellowship supported by the Dow Chemical Company in some chemical subject of general public interest. He said that he had several names, including that of Dr. C. A. Browne. He said that Mr. Dow preferred to have some older man who was still active, although retired, and would be willing to take up the matter as a labor of love. Dow will furnish a reasonable amount of money to carry through the project for several years, perhaps. Dr. Skinner promised to advise Dr. Read if any available person should come to his attention.

Mr. Stuart advised Dr. Skinner regarding the setup of the egg production work. He stated that the National Egg Production Association of Chicago, whose president is Mr. Arthur Doell of Swift & Company, controlled ~~the~~ and manipulated the market for eggs and this was done generally in the interest of the Midwest producers who had now gotten control of both the Chicago and New York Egg Exchange. Mr. Stuart said that Mr. Benjamin of the Washington Cooperative Poultry Association originally controlled the egg market in New York, there by setting the prices throughout the country. There was a conflict between the group headed by Benjamin and the group headed by Doell, and the Benjamin group had lost out but were still fighting for control of the market. Stuart thinks

perhaps a big scandal is developing in the situation which will perhaps affect the purchase of eggs under the lend-lease. Stuart stated that the Department through the SMA appeared to favor the Central egg producers and he feared that trouble was brewing for the Department.

Dr. Skinner explained to Dr. Price the necessity of assembling at once all of the data in regard to the employment and activities of Dr. Sando who had made efforts to throw a lot of mud, and according to Dr. May, there are going to be a lot of people spattered with it. Anticipating that either Dr. Auchter, or perhaps some committee, may wish to make an investigation of the situation, it is desirable to have all of the data collected in one file, and Dr. Skinner told Dr. Price that he knew of no one in the Bureau in a more impartial position to prepare such a file than himself, nor no one who could do a more efficient job. Dr. Price said he would be willing to undertake any desirable assignment, although he felt this would not be a very pleasant one. He was told to discuss the matter further with Mr. Donovan and Mr. Speh.



I met Dr. Auchter at Lunch today and told him Mr. Allanson had advised me that he (Dr. Auchter) had stated that Mr. Noel should be continued in the Bureau of Agricultural and Industrial Chemistry. Dr. Auchter said that he had not made the statement quite that way. What he had said was he felt that it was logical for the Bureau of Plant Industry, Soils and Agricultural Engineering to have had transferred to them from the Bureau of Agricultural and Industrial Chemistry on the transfer of the engineering activities those persons who had come to Agricultural Chemistry and Engineering with the engineering group in 1938 such as, for instance, Mr. Gapen. Dr. Auchter said by the same reasoning he felt that they should not take persons who did not come with the engineering group but who ~~had~~ were already with Chemistry originally in 1938.

I explained to Dr. Auchter that the reason Mr. Noel was included in the transfer of the engineering group under the last Executive Order in February was that he (Mr. Noel) was originally part of the Chemical Engineering Division of the Bureau of Chemistry and Soils which division was promptly amalgamated and merged with the Agricultural Engineering group when the latter came into the new Bureau in 1938 of Agricultural Chemistry and Engineering. Dr. Auchter/stated, however, that he felt that Mr. Noel should be continued in the service of the Bureau of Agr. and Industrial Chemistry.

Dr. Auchter also advised me that while he recognized that the amount of money involved in the transfer of funds for the Protein and Nutrition Division to the Bureau of Human Nutrition and Home Economics was correct, he was disturbed to know that the \$2300 from the General Administration fund which was transferred was not free money but had included in it the salary of Samuel Harris the colored laborer. Dr. Auchter stated that in view of the heavy costs for maintenance that would be required of the Protein and Nutrition Division when they moved to Beltsville, he felt that the Bureau of Agricultural and Industrial Chemistry should retain Samuel Harris and try to place him in some of the groups that would be moving to the field in the decentralization program.

JHR



Friday, March 26, 1943

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Mr. Speh, Mr. Donovan and Dr. Skinner discussed the proposed conference with Mr. Hughes and Mr. Termohlen about the transfer of the microbiological work to Philadelphia. Mr. Termohlen requested a conference on Saturday morning, March 27, at 10 o'clock. Dr. Skinner called Dr. Woodbury and invited him to be at this conference.

Bert D. Ingels of the Wallace-Tiernan Co. called to discuss the question of the use of soybean flour in bread. Mr. Ingels expressed a great deal of alarm at the raw bean meal which was being advocated as a component of flour. He said that the food and drug people had agreed to allow the incorporation of not to exceed 3% without a declaration on the label - that the General Mills are putting out such a product and he (Ingels) thought that there is a great possibility of serious impairment to the value of bread as a food by incorporating with flour the untreated, uncooked bean meals.

Mr. Kinghorn called to see Dr. Skinner about a personal matter regarding the University of Maryland.

Dr. Skinner discussed the J. O. Reed the possibility of his taking over the work formerly carried on by Dr. Monvid. Reed said he would consider the matter and let Dr. Skinner know his decision.

Mr. Speh and Mr. Donovan discussed with Dr. Skinner the letter received from Mr. Lynch under date of March 13 about the appointment of Mr. Lee to the chiefship of the Textile Division of the SRRL. Mr. Donovan and Mr. Speh had discussed the letter with Mr. Lynch and were of the opinion that Dr. Skinner should discuss the matter promptly with Cheatham, pointing out that Mr. Lee should be appointed to the position if Cheatham did not expect to return to New Orleans.

Dr. Skinner discussed with Mr. Holman the setting up of a staff in the office of the Chief and asked him to consider taking over the general chemical information work in addition to his work with Teuton on the editorial staff. Mr. Holman said he did not need time to think it over - that he would take it over at once.

~~Mr. Woodbury called to discuss the request of Mr. Kinghorn~~

Dr. Woodbury called to discuss the request of Wyckoff for the transfer of von Loesecke to work in the FDA. He said that he had told Wyckoff that the matter should be discussed with Dr. Skinner.

Mr. Wyckoff and Mr. Johnson called to discuss with Mr. Speh, Mr. Donovan and Dr. Skinner the request for the transfer of von Loesecke. Dr. Skinner pointed out to Mr. Wyckoff that he would be glad to do anything in his power to aid him in the job which had been assigned to him by Mr. Stettinius, but explained that while he would be glad to release von Loesecke, he felt that he should resign in order not to complicate the matter of filling the position that he was scheduled to occupy in New Orleans. *as called by Dr. Skinner* Mr. Wyckoff asked if Dr. Skinner had heard about the order of freezing the jobs, and Dr. Skinner said he had had nothing official on it. Dr. Skinner told Mr. Wyckoff that he would let him know before the end of the day, after he had had an opportunity to discuss it with Dr. Auchter. This was done late Saturday afternoon and Dr. Skinner advised Mr. Wyckoff by telephone that he would instruct von Loesecke to report, on a temporary basis, to Mr. Wyckoff's office to start work on Monday morning, but that the determination of the final decision would have to be delayed. Dr. Skinner called Mr. Wyckoff from Dr. Auchter's office and also called Mrs. Jacobs advising her to get in touch with Mr. vonLoesecke and instruct him to report to Mr. Wyckoff as above. (Mr. vonLoesecke was notified by Mrs. Jacobs as directed by Dr. Skinner -5 o'clock)

Mr. Termohlen, Mr. Hughes, Mr. Paine, Dr. Woodburg, Mr. Speh, Mr. Donovan and Dr. Skinner discussed the transfer of the microbiological group to Philadelphia. Mr. Termohlen gave a lengthy explanation about the importance of the work which was being conducted under the lend lease and stated very emphatically, repeating it several times, that it could not be done except for the very valuable assistance rendered by Dr. Goresline and Mr. Stuart, and others in this Bureau. He explained that it was necessary to have almost daily contact with his group and the group in this Bureau and that he looked with great disfavor on any interruption of this very strenuous work by transferring the group to Philadelphia. He said it might mean that he would have to take the work to Chicago and have service given from there under Dr. Kahlenburg. Dr. Skinner asked Termohlen some rather pointed questions as to why, if the work could be done in Chicago, it could not be done just as well in



Philadelphia. Termohlen really had no answer to this question. Dr. Skinner explained that every effort would be made to give as good service from Philadelphia as was given heretofore from the office in Washington, and that it was not contemplated that Dr. Goresline would be withdrawn from the field - that so far as he could see the only difficulty would be in the special cooperative work which was performed by Mr. Stuart with the people at Beltsville. Dr. Skinner told Termohlen there would be as little delay as possible in the transfer to Philadelphia and that if necessary three or four people would be transferred one day and could start to work in the laboratory in Philadelphia the next morning. The question of whether there should be kept in Washington a liaison officer, Mr. Stuart or Dr. Goresline, was explored. No decision was reached. It was the final determination of the conference that the attempt would be made to handle all of the work from Philadelphia, and if upon trial it appeared to be impossible, then other arrangements would be entered into.

Dr. Auchter called Dr. Skinner about 12 o'clock in regard to the Stettinius letter suggestion to the Secretary of Agriculture that consideration be given to compressed foods, particularly dehydrated foods. Dr. Auchter wanted to know, within ten minutes - for the Secretary's consideration - what had been done in Berkeley and what had been done in the Bureau. He was told by Dr. Skinner that only preliminary work had been done and that so far as Dr. Skinner knew no commercial application of our results had been made. Later, Dr. Auchter called a meeting in his office for 2 o'clock. Dr. Skinner invited Mr. Speh and Mr. Paine to attend this meeting.

A phone call was placed for Dr. Swenson during which Mr. Speh discussed with Dr. Swenson the conversion of dehydrated vegetables.

Mr. Speh, Mr. Donovan and Dr. Skinner attended a meeting in Dr. Auchter's office at 2 o'clock at which Bureau Chiefs were present. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the request of the Budget Bureau for information to be submitted not later than March 29 regarding a demand by Congress under a resolution about overtime pay. The ceilings for the several bureaus established by the Budget Bureau were announced.

Certain instructions were given to the group by Mr. Cardon who had the day previously worked out the plan with the Budget and Finance and personnel administrators of the Department. Mr. Donovan rushed back to the Bureau in order to get the work started and organized a group to come to the Bureau on Sunday in order to get the data in form to submit to Dr. Auchter on or before 2:30 P.M. March 29.

Mr. Salter, Mr. Reed, Dr. Stiebeling and Dr. Skinner were asked to remain with Dr. Auchter to discuss the compressed food statement requested by Mr. Stettinius. Mr. Paine and Mr. Speh were asked to sit in on the conference. Mr. Speh reported on the recent phone statement by Dr. Swenson and Mr. Paine presented a statement covering the compressed flour work and the difficulty in having attention paid to it by either the Army or Navy. Dr. Auchter asked that a statement be filed with him by 2:30 Monday giving an outline of what had been accomplished in order that a letter might be prepared for the Secretary's signature to Mr. Stettinius.



Mr. Herrick and Dr. Skinner discussed some of the plans not the future work of the NRRL. Dr. Skinner explained to Mr. Herrick the reasons for now wishing to transfer the cereal chemistry work and his statement to Dr. Auchter about the matter.

Mr. Donovan came in to discuss the ceiling established for employees and how the matter had been worked out.

Mr. Paine telephoned Dr. Skinner to inquire about the laboratory equipment in New Orleans and said that the written statement from Mr. Gastrock did not conform to what he had been told about the equipment of the space which his units were to occupy. He said that only three of the four laboratories were equipped and he wanted to know if equipment would be made available pointing out it would be no use to send chemists to New Orleans to sit around in office space. Mr. Paine was advised that the matter would be taken up and it was discussed with Mr. Speh and Mr. Donovan. Mr. Speh strongly advised that Palkin and Paine go immediately to New Orleans to look over the space allotted to them. Mr. Paine stated that Mr. Walter was to confer over long distance with Gastrock in the afternoon and that Paine would advise the result of the conversation.

Dr. Wells came in to discuss the allotment under the Budget Bureau ruling and what it would mean to the ERRL. Under the injunction of secrecy, Dr. Wells was advised about the report on guayule work which Dr. Auchter had conveyed to Dr. Skinner late Saturday afternoon.

Dr. McCall discussed with Dr. Skinner the equipment which would accompany the cereal chemistry group which was being transferred out of the BAIC. Dr. Skinner told Dr. McCall that he would talk with Mr. Paine about the transfer of the equipment and that it was Dr. Skinner's feeling that all of the equipment necessary to the personnel would go with the group. He told Dr. McCall however that where there was a joint ownership of equipment he would expect the determination for its disposal to be made by Dr. Skinner and Mr. Paine as he felt that this Bureau had the first choice in the matter. To this Dr. McCall agreed. Dr. McCall also discussed the matter of integrating the work of his three baking



laboratories with the regional laboratory work, especially the results on protein. It was agreed that this should be integrated and Dr. Skinner told Dr. McCall that he would discuss the matter with Mr. Herrick and have him call Dr. McCall before he left Washington next week. \* This Dr. Skinner did later in the afternoon.

Dr. Skinner called Mr. Paine and asked him to segregate the inventory cards of equipment which might be expected to go with the cereal laboratory and to bring the matter to his attention as soon as possible.

\*Message received from Mr. Herrick 3/30

"Mr. Herrick phoned that he has made an appointment to have lunch with Dr. McCall on Thursday at the Cosmos Club to discuss the cooperation which Dr. Skinner spoke to him about."

Mr. Groggins discussed with Dr. Skinner the new setup in FPA and its relationship to the research work of the ARA, and particularly the Bureau of Chemistry.

Dr. Skinner discussed with Mr. Cheatham the situation in regard to the development of the Textile Division in SRRL. He read part of Mr. Lynch's letter to Mr. Cheatham and pointed out to him the necessity of making some decision about the leadership of that unit and the fear which Mr. Lynch has concerning the offer of an outside job to Mr. Lee. Mr. Cheatham expressed the opinion that Mr. Lee ought to be given the job as Chief of the Division - that he, Mr. Cheatham, had no expectation of returning to New Orleans - that he felt that a man of his calibre should always be kept on the staff here in Washington. Mr. Cheatham did not exactly say that he would not return to New Orleans but he distinctly gave the impression that he was not interested in doing so - if Mr. Lee should resign that Mr. DuPre was sufficiently well trained to carry on the job as Chief of the Division. Dr. Skinner asked Mr. Cheatham to give him in writing his recommendation about the assignment of Mr. Lee as Chief of the Division and also his recommendation about Mr. DuPre and Mr. Sens.

Mr. Donovan and Mr. Speh discussed with Dr. Skinner the desire of Dr. Auchter to have samples of compressed dehydrated foods. Mr. Speh stated that he had sent a wire to Dr. Swenson asking him to send on samples by airplane express.

Dr. Skinner asked Dr. Wells about his talk to the group which composed the microbiological group. He called to Dr. Wells attention the unfortunate misinterpretation that had been placed upon his words on that occasion. Dr. Wells was surprised and chagrined that what he said had been misinterpreted. He explained that he did not mean to infer that bacteriologists were neither wanted nor needed in Philadelphia. He said the misinterpretation of his remark had been undoubtedly due to his statement that it would be easier for him to find personal accommodations for the men than it would be to find accommodations for women.



Dr. Palkin and Mr. Walton discussed with Dr. Skinner the advisability of either or both of them going to New Orleans to look over the space there. When Dr. Skinner was informed that an exact draft of space and equipment would be in the Bureau Thursday morning, it was decided that neither of them need make the trip. This was confirmed on the phone by Mr. Lynch later in the day when he talked with Mr. Donovan.

Dr. Skinner discussed with Mr. Paine and Mr. Walton the location of the office space allotted for the personal use of Mr. Paine and his secretary in the Southern Laboratory. Mr. Paine expressed his entire satisfaction with the arrangement.

Mr. W. H. Jasspon of the Commodity Credit advised Dr. Skinner over the phone that he desired to have a list of reputable commercial analytical laboratories that the Commodity Credit might license in order to pass on the analysis of soybean products, particularly as it is intended to buy soybeans on an oil content basis. Dr. Skinner advised that he had no such current list of competent laboratories and suggested that Mr. Jasspon

talk with Dr. May, which he did. He later called back and said that Dr. May thought Dr. Milner could give advice about the matter and it was decided to ask Dr. Milner to come in for a conference with Mr. Jasspon. A wire was sent to Dr. Hilbert instructing Dr. Milner to come to Washington as soon as possible.

Mr. Emley of the Bureau of Standards called to inquire if there was any possibility of obtaining equipment from the South Building after the laboratories are moved out. Dr. Skinner told him he thought every piece of the equipment had been spoken for to equip the new laboratories at Beltsville.

Sidney Cates called and said he had talked to Dr. May about the article on rubber which he was proposing to write along the line of the discussion which he had previously had with Dr. Skinner. Mr. Cates asked if Dr. Skinner would give him a letter to Mr. Jeffers, but upon discussion it was decided that this was not necessary and that Mr. Cates should make a direct appointment.



A telegram received from G.E. Hilbert regarding his attendance at a luncheon on April 3 at the Illinois Chamber of Commerce (at which production of synthetic rubber from grain will be discussed by Senator Gillette) was discussed with Mr. Herrick and Dr. Hilbert was called on long distance phone and advised by Dr. Skinner to attend this meeting but if possible to make no statements whatsoever. (Telegram sent to bf)

Dr. Skinner suggested to Mr. Cates that before seeing Mr. Jeffers he should review the testimony before the Gillette Committee.

Dr. Skinner advised Dr. Woodbury about the arrangements with Mr. Jasspon and told him of his telegram instructing Wilner to come to Washington at the earliest opportunity.

Dr. May and Mr. Herrick discussed with Dr. Skinner the question of establishing fellowships in the Bureau and in the ARA, with special reference to the Corn Industries Foundation fellowship which had been discussed with Dr. Hilbert by Dr. Newkirk. It was thought desirable to approve Dr. Newkirk's request for the establishment of additional fellowships in the NRRL. Dr. Skinner thought that Dr. May ought to take the matter up with other bureaus of the ARA in order to have a definite policy about the placing of fellowships. Dr. May and Dr. Skinner discussed the advisability of calling a conference of those industries or laboratories interested in the development of starch from wheat. It was considered desirable that the NRRL be advised to call such a conference, as suggested by Dr. Hilbert, some time in May.

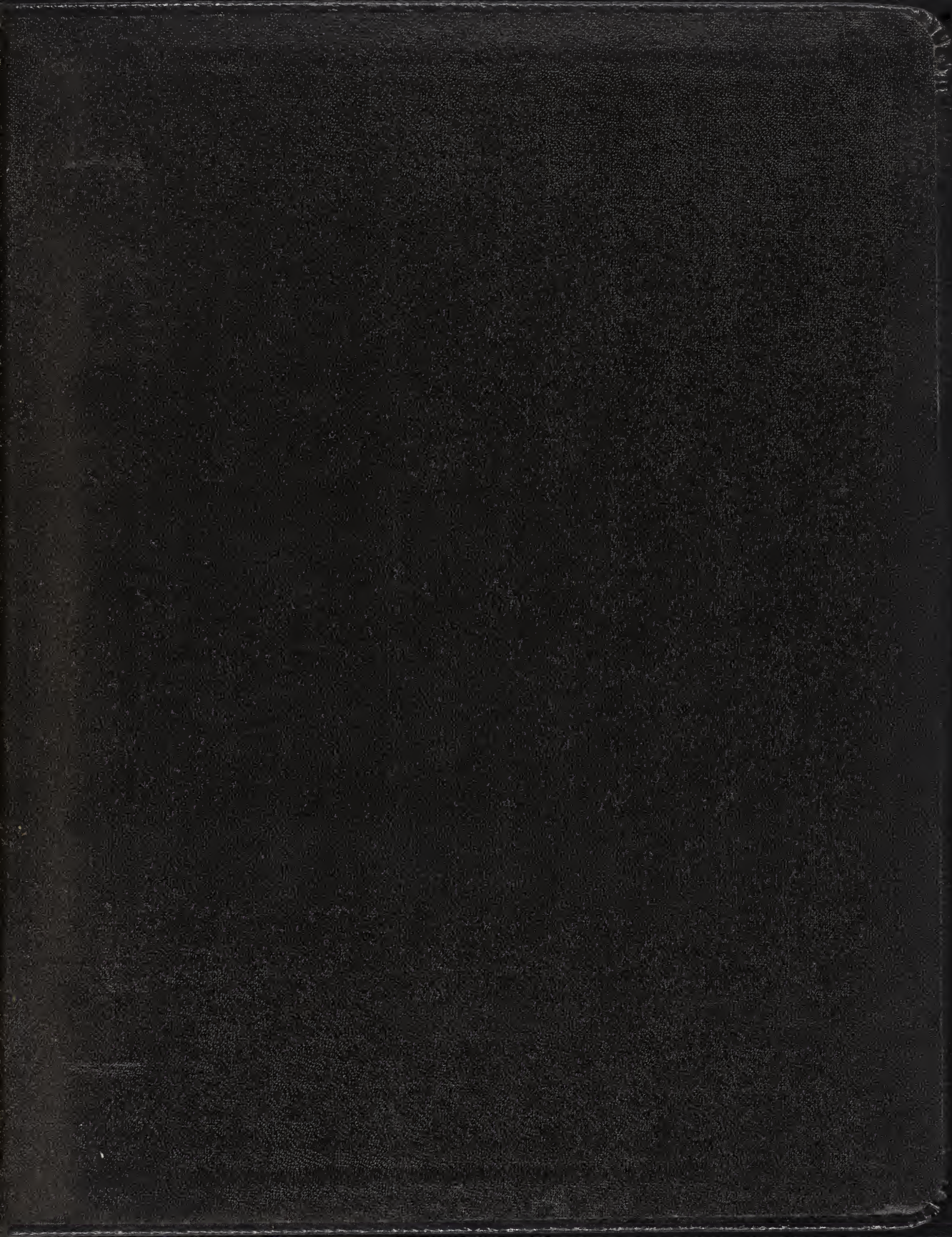
Mr. Swift and Dr. Stevens discussed with Dr. Skinner the transfer of the fellowship to New Orleans and the necessity of advising Mr. Barrows promptly about the matter. It was explained to Mr. Swift that the transfer of his effects to New Orleans could not be paid for by the Government. Dr. Skinner said he would advise Mr. Barrows and left for future determination as to whether Mr. Swift would personally go to New Orleans or seek a position elsewhere.

The samples of compressed food were received from the WRRL by Mr. Speh. They were taken over personally by him to Dr. Auchter late in the afternoon. The samples were improperly labeled and Swenson should be advised of this.

Mr. Hazard, formerly of the University of Maryland called to see Dr. Skinner and it was the first that Dr. Skinner had heard he was no longer with the University but was with the Navy Dept. Mr. Hazard advised Dr. Skinner that he was registering in the Graduate School of the USDA and was rather anxious to get into foreign agricultural work. Mr. Hazard stated that he is a graduate of Georgetown University Foreign Relations School, and that he was a fair student of Spanish and thought perhaps his services could be utilized better in the foreign service than elsewhere. Hr. Hazard was advised to write up a record of his education and experience and submit it to the personnel officer, Mr. Reid, of the USDA. Dr.

Skinner stated that Mr. Hazard might give him as reference and that he would also be glad to look over the statement he submitted to the personnel office.







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